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Web Basics • Creating Signature Files

Online Access®

January 1996

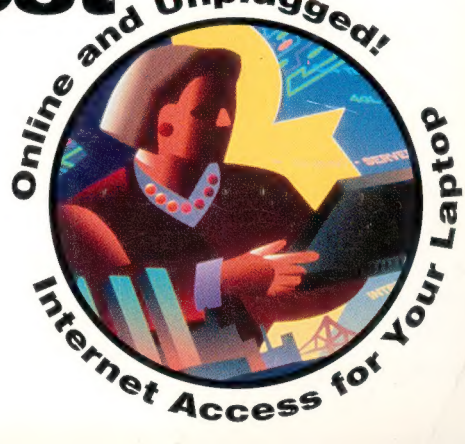
No Hype—Just How To

The Complete Guide to msn.

The Microsoft Network

Start

Tips and Tricks for the World's Newest Online Service



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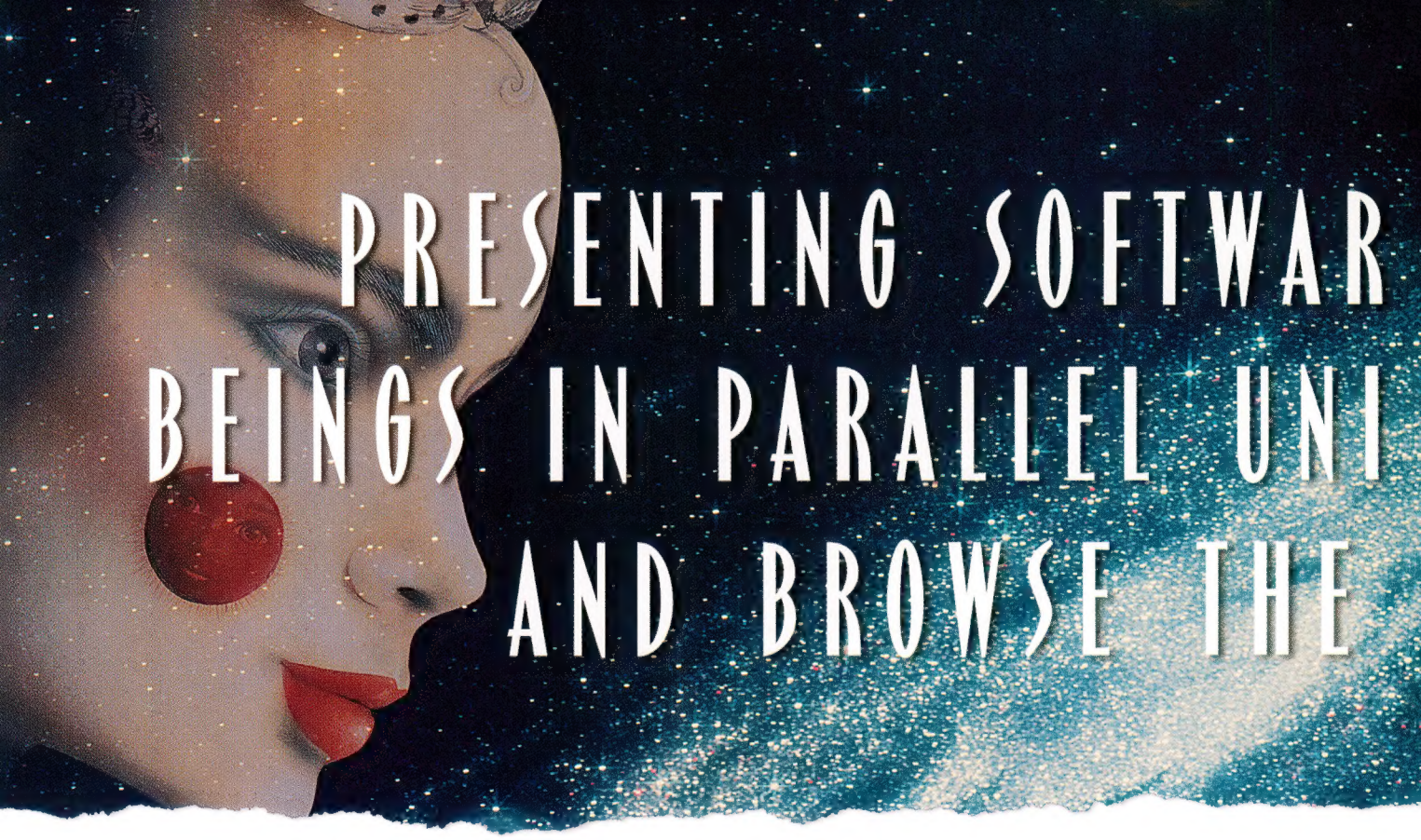

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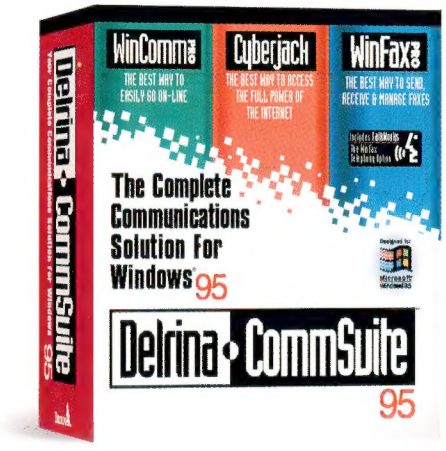
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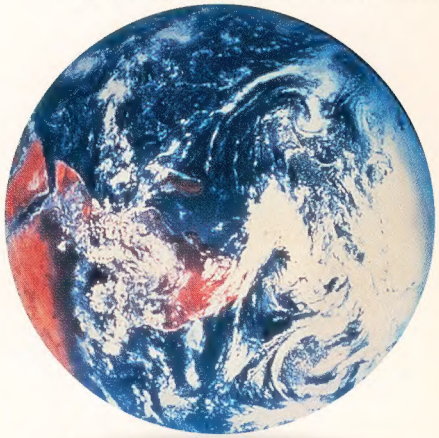

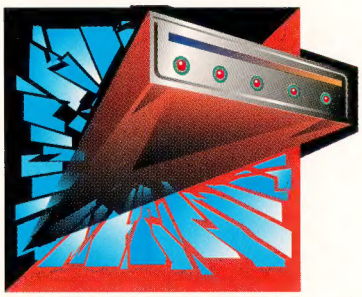

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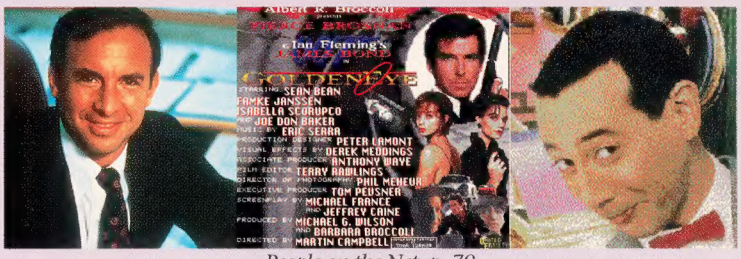

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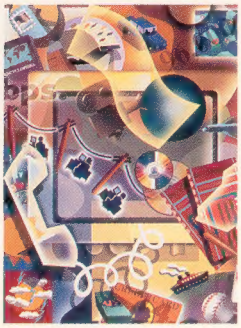

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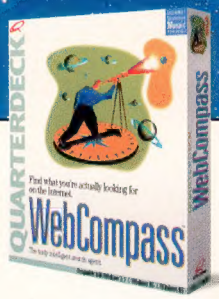

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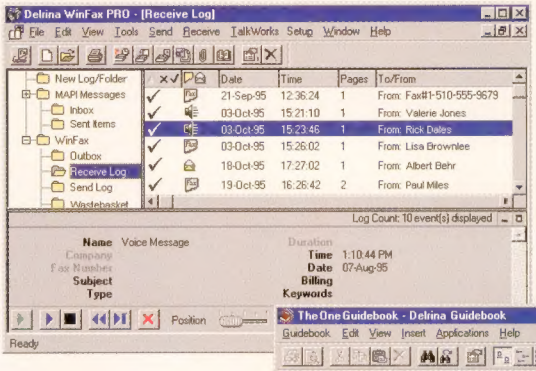
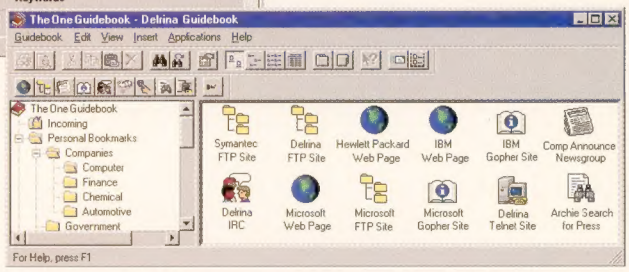
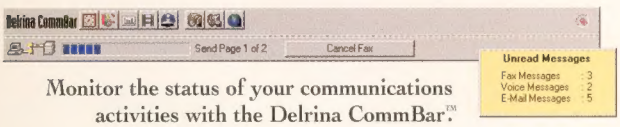


With TalkWorks, the WinFax PRO telephony option, all of your messages - faxes, e-mail and voice mail - come together in one convenient place.

The Cyberjack Guidebook organizes your favorite Internet sites in one place and comes with hundreds of popular sites.





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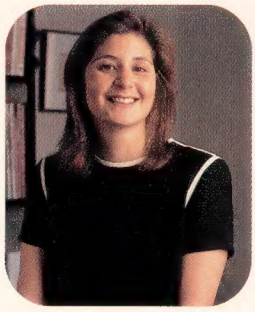
Editor's Letter



ONLINE ACCESS: The 1996 Version

January started in June here at ONLINE ACCESS. It was early last summer when we began the long process of determining what changes to make to the magazine for 1996. The editorial staff studied the results of our reader surveys and did some serious brainstorming to figure out what we were doing well and what we could improve.

There were some surprises when it came to what our readers liked and didn't like in the magazine. Despite all the buzz in the popular press about children online (e.g., incidents of online pedophilia and pornography, online help for students with homework, etc.), every article we ran in 1995 that was related to children or education did poorly in our surveys. The softer, "lifestyle" type of articles, such as celebrities online and empowerment of the handicapped through the Internet, weren't well received either.

What *was* popular? Technical articles—like the one we ran in March about configuring your modem—and all articles about the World Wide Web.

Based on these results, we came to the following conclusion: ONLINE ACCESS readers want straightforward, rather technical information about how to optimize their online sessions.

To give you more of what you are looking for, we have added a new section to the magazine called **Accidental User**. In this section, we will offer readers tips on how to use the major online services. This month we take a look at CompuServe's new software. Accidental User will also cover an Internet topic and a general online topic each month. In this issue, these topics include tips for using the Web and creating signature files.

Our reference section, formerly known as Editor's Choice, has been renamed **HotList**. Every month in HotList, there will be a number of online resources for three to five areas of interest—at least one of which will be business related. This year, the online resources will be organized by place of origin—the Web, the online services, the Internet and bulletin boards.

We have also strengthened our feature articles to give you more practical, how-to information. We've added a feature category called **TechTalk**, which will offer technical advice on everything from configuring your SLIP/PPP account and understanding your computer's memory capabilities to selecting a Web browser. Another new feature category is **Rave Review**. Here you will be able to read quick reviews of online software and services, helping you to find the best buys.

Our News & New Products section, which is comprised of New Products & Services, Online Update, ClipBoard and Online Events, has also undergone some changes. We've expanded **Online Update** to include extensive coverage of Microsoft's new service MSN. The **New Products & Services** section now includes a listing of at least 30 new Web pages that we think you'll enjoy checking out.

Finally, we have our columnists. The ever-popular Jim Romenesko (**Internet Insider**) and Gary Robbins (**Good Things on the Internet**) will continue their monthly assignments. Our **Power User** column is back this year and being written by Jack Germain. Former ONLINE ACCESS editor Len Strazewski is starting a new column called **Cyberbeat**, in which he will discuss trends in cyberspace. And on the last page of the magazine, Elias Crim will continue to write about online sites of current or historical significance in **Online Almanac**.

We've also made some changes in the design of the magazine. In order to get you more information each month, we've simplified our artwork and layout. Our art director, Jeff Burns, is designing editorial content to improve readability and enhance understanding of the material.

Of course, you, our readers, have the final say on any changes we make in ONLINE ACCESS. After you've read this issue, please send us an e-mail message and let us know what you think. Positive or negative—your comments are always welcome.

Kathryn McCabe

Kathryn McCabe
Editor-in-Chief
kmccabe@onlineaccess.com

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To get up and running, look for the CD-ROM included in this month's issue. For more details or for a disk version of the software (one per household), call our Customer Registration Center at **1-800-745-2747, ext. 2900**, and ask about the Outrageous Internet Offer.

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Letters to the Editor

This month we received letters heartily agreeing and vehemently disagreeing with the editor's past letters about Prodigy's Web pages and women on the Internet.

Prodigy's Web Faux Pas

I have to agree with the Editor's Letter (November 1995) discussing how Prodigy has insulted its users and the Internet at large by making its Web service one-way. If Prodigy wants to consider its service a true part of the "World" Wide Web, then the service should allow the rest of the Internet to see its Web pages. If not, then it should call its service the Prodigy Wide Web, or perhaps the Almost World Wide Web.

Darrin Rodriguez
darcom@interport.net

You can forget about online services, such as Prodigy, giving back to the Internet what they have taken. The online giants are nothing more than cybermonarchs.

It's sad when a company like Prodigy puts restrictions on information and resources that could benefit everyone. Somewhere along the line, a lot of companies forget who helped put them where they are today. They neglect the "little guy," and that's a shame.

Frank Colletta, Jr.
neurotic@postoffice.ptd.net

Women on the Net

I thought the Editor's Letter "Women Crash the Net" (October 1995) was an unrealistic, degrading take on women on the Net. In the opening paragraph, the letter uses *Vogue's* article about beauty online as an example of women's publications acknowledging the online world. Ugh! As if the first thing on my mind when I go online is buying makeup! Women on the Net are no different than men. We go there for *all* kinds of information and entertainment.

Jade Pastor
jadegem@unix.asb.com

AOL Outrage

After I write this letter, I'm going to call America Online to cancel my subscription. I have watched my bill go up several dollars when, in fact, I had spent only minutes online on the days for which I was billed. I am tired of trying to keep my America Online bill low by drastically reducing my online time and never succeeding. AOL has a lot to offer, but overcharging for its service will only drive people away.

Brian Hedden
xhsl45a@prodigy.com

On October 15th, AOL's Internet newsgroups section was down for two days. AOL never posted a Community Update regarding the system outage. I e-mailed AOL's technical support suggesting that the service post a Community Update but got no reply.

On October 17th, AOL replied with this canned message: "Thank you for your suggestion for improving America Online. Although we cannot guarantee that your suggestion will be implemented, we want you to know we will give it careful consideration as we make future plans." Since when does notifying users about a system outage require future planning?

AOL also tends to ignore e-mail messages from customers regarding access to AOLNet, which allows users to access AOL at 28.8 Kbps. AOL encourages customers to use AOLNet, but the service's local access numbers are busy most of the time. This has been a problem in my area for three months.

Richard G. Cramotte, Jr.
Nashville, Tennessee

Graphics Gripe

You do your readers a disservice by using dark colors behind printed text. When secondary and tertiary colors are used to decorate a page, it causes a disturbance in the clarity of the print.

I do not mean to kvetch. As a retired physician with extensive experience in ophthalmology, I get unnecessarily frustrated with the magazine's kaleidoscopic background color schemes. Less is better.

Anthony Komninos, M.D.
tsuy68a@prodigy.com

Congratulations

I purchased the November issue of Online Access and found that it contained lots of usable information. This issue is a keeper, especially with all of the interesting AOL and CompuServe sites that it features. It sure saves me online time when I know exactly where to go.

Jimmy Porter
beaveis@aol.com

I received my first issue of Online Access. It is very informative and is, by far, the finest magazine I've found concerning the Net and where to go to find the best points of interest. Truly outstanding!

Rev. Patrick Vossen
pvossen@connix.com

Corrections and Clarifications

There is an incorrect URL for *The Wall Street Journal's* Money & Investing Update Web site in our New Products & Services section (November 1995). The correct address is **http://update.wsj.com**.

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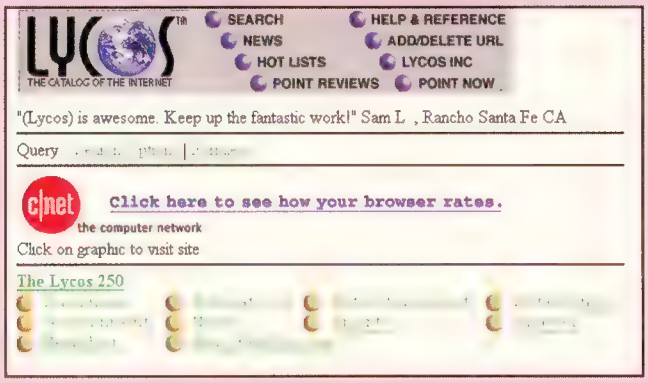
Due to the volume of mail that we receive at Online Access we regret that we cannot guarantee a personal response to every letter.

New Products & Services

By Catherine McNamara

Your guide to the newest products and services

Internet News



Lycos has a brand new look! The popular directory recently launched its newly designed Internet search and indexing service.

Lycos (**http://www.lycos.com/**) now offers an easy-to-use interface that employs point-and-click navigation and a regularly updated list of new Internet sites and links. Lycos' new search form allows users to find information by searching with a question or keyword.

What's more, Lycos recently acquired Point Communications Corporation, a free service that provides critical reviews of Web sites, as well as real-time updates of news and general interest stories.

Although Lycos and Point Communications Corporation (**http://www.pointcom.com/**) will continue to maintain separate Web sites, their search and review features have been integrated so that users can easily navigate the Web from either site.

New Products

Are you lost on the Information Superhighway? Check out **Internet the Easy Way**. This multimedia CD-ROM package by GT Interactive Software contains more than four hours of video, animation, graphics and audio instruction that will help you find your way around cyberspace. The CD-ROM provides an Internet overview lesson, a Web tutorial, Internet search tools, a glossary of terms and a list of interesting sites.

Internet the Easy Way also includes a free, one-month membership to Pipeline USA. This national Internet access service provides a full range of Internet functions, including access to the Web, e-mail, more than 14,000 newsgroups, ftp and telnet.

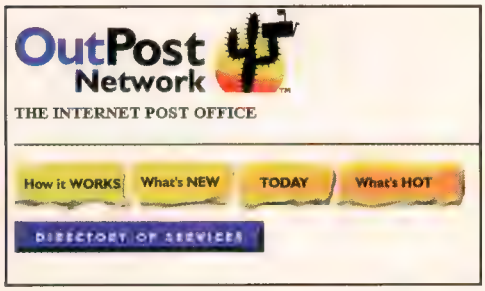
Internet the Easy Way is available for $29.95 and requires a 486 computer or higher, equipped with a dual speed CD-ROM drive and Windows 3.1 or higher. For more information, call GT Interactive Software at 212-696-2000, voice.

New Services

If you've ever downloaded a picture file and wondered if you've committed a crime, you're not alone. Sometimes it can be difficult to determine whether a Web image is copyrighted and available for use.

Muse, one of the largest stock photography sites on the Web, is making life a little easier. This site allows users to search through a collection of more than 5,000 images, license the images they select and safely pay for the photos online.

Muse's photos range in price from $8 to $70, with an average license costing between $25 and $35. For more information, check out Muse at **http://www.weststock.com/**.



Now there's an easy way to stay in touch with friends and relatives. A new commercial service called **OutPost Network** lets anyone with Web access send greeting cards, letters and post cards—without ever setting foot in the post office.

The OutPost Network offers users a wide selection of stationery and greeting cards from major card companies. To use the service, all you have to do is select a stationery style or greeting card, write a message and place the order using a major credit card. OutPost Network then prints the letter or greeting card, addresses it and mails it .

The OutPost Network is located at **http://www.outpost.net/**. Service costs range from 50 cents to $9.95.

Six of the nation's largest newspapers—*The Boston Globe*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Times*, the *San Jose Mercury News* and *The Washington Post*—have launched **CareerPath.com**, a national employment service that offers job listings on the Net.

In addition to the job database, the service also plans to offer a resumé database, an employer/job seeker matching service and an index of company profiles. Job hunters can check out CareerPath.com at **http://www.careerpath.com/**.

CareerPath.com

Web Sites

New sites on the Web:

Arctic Circle
http://www.lib.uconn.edu/ArcticCircle/

The Body
http://www.thebody.com/

Catholic Information Center
http://www.catholic.net/

Cognito!
http://www.cognito.com/

Eli Broad Family Foundation
http://www.broadartfdn.org/

Environment RouteNet
http://www.csa.com/routenet/

FitnessNet
http://www.fitnessnet.com/

Go Explore
http://go-explore.com/index.htm

GOP Mainstreet
http://www.rnc.org/

GoSKI
http://www.goski.com/

Interracial Voice
http://www.webcom.com/~intvoice/

Jossey-Bass Publishers
http://www.josseybass.com/

Journal of Image Guided Surgery
http://www.igs.wiley.com/

Keigwin and Mathews
http://www.bluewater.com/bluewater/keigwin_mathews/

Law Journal EXTRA!
http://www.ljx.com/

Levi's
http://www.levi.com/

L. Ron Hubbard
http://www.lronhubbard.org/

Music Boulevard
http://www.musicblvd.com/

News Alert
http://www.newsalert.com/

NYNEX Interactive Yellow Pages
http://www.niyp.com/

PAIS
http://pais.inter.net/pais/

Pennsylvania Dutch Country
http://padutch.welcome.com/

Progressive Farmer Online
http://www.pathfinder.com/PF

RealAudio
http://www.realaudio.com/

Roy Rogers
http://www.royrogers.com/

Sally's Place
http://www.bpe.com/

Sega of America
http://www.segaoa.com/

The Travel Channel Online Network
http://www.travelchannel.com/

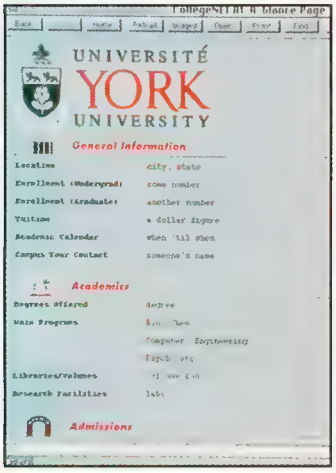
TST
http://www.tstradio.com/

Veterans Archive
http://www.earthlink.net/~beerborn/

New Services

Ziff-Davis Interactive (ZDI) has introduced **ZD Net Personal View**, the first free Web service that lets users receive personalized, computer-related news on a daily basis.

To start receiving the ZD Net Personal View service, simply fill out the brief registration form at the ZD Net Web site (**http://www.zdnet.com**) and indicate the types of computing news that interest you. Soon you will begin receiving all of the latest information from such sources as *PC Week*, *MacWeek*, *Interactive Week* and other Ziff-Davis publications, as well as from leading computer industry news distributors, such as PR Newswire.



Are you thinking of going back to school? Then you might be interested in **CollegeNET**, a new, free Internet search service located at **http://www.collegenet.com/**.

CollegeNET offers information on hundreds of community colleges, universities, vocational schools and technical training schools throughout the country. Users can review general information or conduct searches based on school location, size, fees or types of degrees offered. In addition to the vast database of colleges, CollegeNET is also hyperlinked to more than 1,000 college-related Internet sites.

CollegeNET also plans to offer a $5,000 teaching scholarship, so be sure to visit the site for more details.

Se habla español? Parlez-vous français? If not, then head for **Translate Now**, the new, Web-based translation service located at Globalink's Web page (**http://www.globalink.com/**). Automated translations, returned to users via e-mail, are offered in French, German, Spanish, Italian and to and from English. Translate Now's pricing plan is based on the number of words and the complexity of the document being translated. For more information, visit the site.

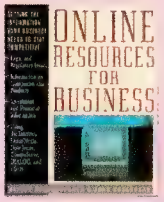
Books

Building Internet Firewalls is a practical guide to protecting computer systems from Internet security threats.

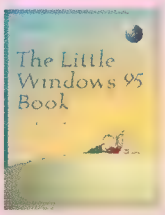
The book discusses various Internet security strategies and offers a summary of Internet services, along with their security risks. In addition, the book covers the technical aspects of firewall design and maintenance. (Firewalls are safety tools that keep damage that occurs in one part of a computer network from spreading to the rest of the network.)

Building Internet Firewalls, by D. Brent Chapman and Elizabeth D. Zwicky, is published by O'Reilly & Associates, Inc. and is available for $29.95. ISBN 1-56592-124-0

Online Resources for Business explains how businesses can save time and money when conducting research online. Authors Alfred Glossbrenner and John Rosenberg also provide access to dozens of online information resources, search strategies and tools, as well as government publications. Published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., *Online Resources for Business: Getting the Information Your Business Needs to Stay Competitive* is available for $24.95. ISBN 0-471-11354-9



The Little Windows 95 Book is a practical, easy-to-use guide to the Windows 95 operating system. Author Kay Yarborough Nelson offers scores of useful tips, charts of keyboard shortcuts and plenty of humorous illustrations to help bring new Windows users up to speed. Published by Peachpit Press, *The Little Windows 95 Book* is available for $12.95. ISBN 1-56609-181-0 OA



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Online Update

By Catherine McNamara

What's new this month from your favorite online service

America Online

8619 Westwood Center Dr.
Vienna, VA 22182-2285
voice: 800-827-6364

Internet News

America Online is helping the nation's public schools get into cyberspace. The service plans to provide free, unlimited AOL access for more than 2,000 California public schools this year. Students and teachers will have access to e-mail, interactive conferences, online reference resources and the Internet.

Schools seeking additional information should contact America Online at the address above, in care of the California Public School Program.

New Features and Services

Have you got a minute? If so, then you have time for Dan Hurley, the world's only 60-second novelist. Hurley began his career on the streets of Chicago in 1983, writing the life stories of passers-by in exchange for small donations. Now you can read along as Dan composes the life stories of fellow AOL users. **The Dan Live Show** can be seen on AOL on Mondays at 11 p.m. and Thursdays at midnight EST. (keywords **60 second novelist**)

Are you looking for legal advice? **Nolo Press**, the nation's premier publisher of self-help legal information, is at your service. The publisher's AOL site features sample chapters from a wide selection of Nolo books, as well as chats with authors. FAQs on specific legal topics, such as family law, estate planing and intellectual property are also available. (keyword **nolo**)

Whether you're struggling with a chronic health condition or preparing for a new and healthier lifestyle, check out the **Personal Empowerment Network** (keyword **pen**). Members of this community help each other deal with life's challenges, as well as with difficult, health-related issues.

Do you want to get away? **Cruise Critic** critiques over 100 cruise ships worldwide. The site also features an interactive "Cruise Selector" to help AOL members select cruises that best meet their personal lifestyles, interests and budgets (keyword **cruise**)

Attention parents: **Parenting Online** features information on child development and a full array of interactive features, including bulletin boards, chat rooms, online events, games, contests and surveys. Users can also review back issues of *Parenting* magazine or send questions to a team of parenting experts that includes the well-known child development expert Dr. Benjamin Spock. (keywords **parenting magazine**)

Blackberry Creek is a creative, online community where kids can hang out, participate in chats, and post their artwork and stories for other kids to review (keyword **blackberry**). To become a member of the Blackberry Creek Club, just click on Join The Club and fill out the requested information.

Space enthusiasts should check out **Spacestation Babylon 5**, the hottest new sci-fi area on AOL. Not only can users download photos and video and sound clips from the show, but they can also access other popular, sci-fi-related sites on the Web. And in the Eclipse Cafe users can chat with other sci-fi fans. (keyword **babylon**)

One of America's most popular newspaper magazines, ***USA Weekend***, has recently gone online (keywords **usa weekend**). The site features many of the magazine's most popular columns, including News & Views, where readers can respond to articles and debate the issues discussed in the magazine. Users should check out the Between Weekends auditorium, where live chats with celebrities are the main feature.

For sports statistics, sports fanatics should visit **STATS, Inc.** This interactive area offers game updates, athlete injury reports, chat rooms and message boards. (Keywords **stats inc**)

Kaplan Education Centers, the nation's leader in test preparation, has helped more than 2 million students meet their educational and career goals. At **Kaplan Online**, users will find seminars on financial aid and test-taking skills. (keyword **kaplan**)

New this month on AOL:

Forum	Keywords
The Dan Live Show	60 second novelist
Nolo Press	nolo
Personal Empowerment Network	pen
Cruise Critic	cruise
Parenting Online	parenting magazine
Blackberry Creek	blackberry
Spacestation Babylon 5	babylon
USA Weekend	usa weekend
STATS, Inc.	stats inc
Kaplan Online	kaplan

CompuServe

5000 Arlington Centre Blvd.
P.O. Box 20212
Columbus, OH 43220
voice: 800-848-8199

Internet News

Good news: CompuServe's new, simple companion service will give computer users everywhere affordable access to the Internet. The service, called **Spryte**, will let users browse the Internet, build Web pages, send e-mail and obtain additional services to meet their computing needs. The new service will also provide free Internet software, including SPRY Mosaic, SPRY Mail and Home Page Wizard, CompuServe's latest Internet feature.

The new service started operations at the end of 1995. Subscriptions cost $4.95 per month for the first three hours of connect time. More experienced users can join the Silver Surf Club and get seven hours of connect time for $9.95, or they can use the Gold Internet Club's 20 hours of connect time for $19.95. Additional time on all three pricing plans costs $1.95 per hour. For more details, contact SPRY at 800-557-9614, ext. 26, or send e-mail to **spryte@spry.com.**

CompuServe introduces **CallingAll Card**, a phone card service that lets members use online communications services from any touch-tone telephone.

With the CallingAll Card, CompuServe members can use the phone to preview select e-mail messages. Users can then send the messages they want to read immediately to any fax machine. (CompuServe plans to offer text-to-voice translation as well, so users will eventually be able to listen to their e-mail.)

Other CallingAll Card services include voice mail, speed dialing, conference calling, access to travel services and access to news, weather and sports information.

The CallingAll Card service will be included in CompuServe's $9.95 per month membership fee. The card will be free to current CompuServe members. A fee of 25 cents per minute will be charged when the card is used, but the service offers 20 free minutes of access for the first month.

New Features and Services

If you use any version of Microsoft Windows, including Windows 3.0, Windows for Workgroups, Windows NT or Windows 95, check out the **Windows Business Software Forum** (go **winbiz**). Here, users can find answers to their Windows-related questions and exchange tips with other members.

The forum's libraries offer shareware and demo software, as well as software documentation and product descriptions. Utilities and programs include translation software, electronic publishers, personal information managers, and management and forecasting tools.

Turn to *Fortune Magazine's* **Fortune Daily** for free financial news (go **fdaily**). Now a part of CompuServe's basic services, the new site provides extensive financial news updates.

Do you need information on portfolio management, retirement planning, mutual funds or international investing? Then check out CompuServe's **Newsletter Information Center**, where users can order free sample copies of or discounted subscriptions to dozens of well-known investment and financial publications (go **newsltr**).

Two recent, well-known additions to the Newsletter Information Center are *Fidelity Monitor* and *Investor's Digest*.

Check out the **International Trade Forum** (go **trade**), where members from more than 80 countries meet to discuss the latest international trading issues. Of particular interest is Message Section 11, Job Bank, where users can post and review resumes. There are also two main message trading sections, where users discuss topics ranging from various goods and service industries to international law.

International trade wizards should check out **ProTRADE** (go **protrade**), the sister forum of the International Trade Forum (see above). Here, the message sections and libraries focus on the trading of specific goods and services and on making better business deals. ProTRADE's monthly membership fee is $7.50.

Before you travel abroad, check out **Getting Through Customs** (go **gtc**). This searchable database offers detailed information on the social, cultural and business practices of 35 different countries.

If you make a wrong turn, consult CompuServe for assistance. **Way to Go CompuServe** offers a complete directory of addresses for various American cities. The service also gives users turn-by-turn driving directions, as well as estimated mileage and driving times. (go **waytogo**)

The travel service also contains listings of hotels, restaurants, shopping centers, gas stations, convention centers and automated bank teller machines. You can take a virtual tour of a selected area or get written, easy-to-follow directions from the service. — *Jack M. Germain*

New this month on CompuServe:

Forum	Go
Windows Business Software Forum	winbiz
Fortune Daily	fdaily
Newsletter Information Center	newsltr
International Trade Forum	trade
ProTRADE	protrade
Getting Through Customs	gtc
Way to Go CompuServe	waytogo

Prodigy

445 Hamilton Ave.
White Plains, NY 10601
voice: 800-PRODIGY

New Features and Services

Are you having trouble finding Prodigy's old reliable Jump command? It's now located in the Go To pull-down menu.

The popular Interest Group Web pages are continuing to multiply (jump **web**). Each IG is maintained by an expert moderator and contains links to related Prodigy chat areas, bulletin boards and Internet newsgroups.

The newest IG topics include Runners, Legal, New Artist Spotlight, Soccer, Weather, Career Connections, College Viewpoint, Equestrian, Manners, Rotary Clubs, Stamp Collecting, French, Puppetry, Wedding Planner, Bicycling, Generation X, Football, Patents and Inventing, Service Clubs, Automotive, Classic Rock, Coins, Country Music, Daycare, Music, Pop/Rock Music and Urban Sounds.

The **Intergalactic Complaint Department** is a popular, new IG where users can show off their bad attitudes. Visitors can take the Curmudgeon's Quiz, check out the Week's Top 5 Complaints and read users' gripes about a variety of subjects. (jump **interest groups**)

The following home pages on Prodigy are designed to make the Prodigy Web browser easy to use:

- **The Welcome Page** (**http://antares.prodigy.com/welcome.htm**) sends users in the right direction with its links to the Web.
- **The Help Page** (**http://antares.prodigy.com/helphead.htm**) contains FAQs about the Web, the Internet and the Prodigy Web browser.
- **Web Browser News** (**http://antares.prodigy.com/browser.htm**) offers updates of Prodigy's browser software, including new feature information.
- **Search** (**http://antares.prodigy.com/search3.htm**) offers a quick link to major search tools, such as Yahoo, Worm, veronica, WAIS and archie. This section also offers Math Search, People Search, Image Finder and the Internet Directory of Public Writers.
- **Online This Week** (**http://antares.prodigy.com/otwph.htm**) focuses on a different theme every Friday and highlights related Interest Groups, BBs and chat discussions.

File libraries are popping up all over Prodigy, thanks to the file librarians who have been working overtime to gather the downloadable text files, graphics, utilities, shareware, games and recipes that the file libraries contain. (Member uploads will be a part of these libraries in the future.)

Family Matters is a new BB that requires special enrollment procedures because of its sensitive content (jump **family matters**). Topics commonly discussed include bereavement, divorce, incest, substance abuse, domestic violence and child abuse.

If you haven't been tuning into **Chat** (jump **chat**), you've been missing out. Recent guests have included guitarist/vocalist George Bensen, film director Abel Ferrara, Donald Fagen and Walter Becker from the band Steely Dan, women's fashion designer Oleg Cassini, author Erica Jong, fitness expert Kathy Smith, Olympic medalist figure skater Elizabeth Manley and actress Susan Lucci from *All My Children*. Transcripts of past chat events are available for reading, copying or printing. Be sure to check out the chat area's schedule of upcoming events.

Go Bushwalk takes kids on an exciting, virtual journey through South Africa (jump **adventure bb**). Here, you can learn about South Africa's land, history and people, as well as go through a ranger training course at the Sabi-Sabi Private Game Reserve.

Do you have a good memory? If you have a knack for recalling exactly when a specific event occurred, then you're sure to enjoy Prodigy's new game, **Yearbook**. (jump **yearbook**)

Users who are interested in learning a foreign language, buying language software or obtaining translation services should check out the new **Berlitz Foreign Language Forum** (jump **berlitz**). For more than 115 years, Berlitz has been a leader in language-related services, providing language and cultural education, as well as translation and interpretation services.

The **Wells Fargo Online** banking service has expanded its features to include bill payment services, mutual funds and a detailed fee schedule. (jump **wells fargo**) —*Rita Laws*

New this month on Prodigy:

Forum	Jump
Interest Groups	web
Intergalactic Complaint Department	interest groups
Family Matters	family matters
Chat	chat
Go Bushwalk	adventure bb
Yearbook	yearbook
Berlitz Foreign Language Forum	berlitz
Wells Fargo Online	wells fargo

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voice: 800-386-5550

New Features and Services

To find out what's making news in courtrooms across the country, tune into **The Court TV Law Center**. Here, users will find FAQs, an extensive law library and various chat rooms for discussing legal issues and the ongoing trials of the day. Users can also learn about the cases on Court TV, the popular cable news network dedicated to reporting events affecting the U.S. legal and judicial systems. (In Categories, click on **Arts & Entertainment** and select **Television & Radio**.)

The 21st Century Online Network (go **future**) showcases entrepreneurs, artists, educators and scientists with unique visions of the future. Visit the site to find an exciting lineup of special events, conferences and guest moderators discussing a wide range of 21st century-related topics. Users are also invited to visit Chat-Net, the site's meeting and networking area, before, during or after special events.

If you enjoy cooking, you'll like *Cooking Light* magazine's new home on MSN. **Cooking Light Online** is all about enjoying a healthy lifestyle. The forum features a chat room for users, as well as live chats with famous chefs, cookbook authors and fitness specialists. There's also a bulletin board section and a marketplace with products for sale, including cookbooks, recipes and calendars. (go **cooking light**)

animalNet is a new service that connects animal lovers all over the world. On animalNet, users will find a wide array of information, resource materials and networking opportunities. Chat live with experts on a variety of animal-related topics, review an online catalog of pet products, or get support in such special areas as Dealing With Pet Loss. (In Categories, open **Home & Family**, click on **Family Interests & Recreation** and select **Pets**.)

Real Estate Xtra! is the most comprehensive real estate source available online. Whether you're a first-time buyer or a seasoned real estate professional, Real Estate Xtra! makes buying, selling, and maintaining a home easy. Users can join discussion areas, games, contests and more. (In Categories, open **Business & Finance**, click on **Personal Finance** and select **Life and Home**.)

Entrepreneur Magazine's Small Business Network (go **biznet**) recently expanded. Users can now read the monthly online versions of *Entrepreneur* and *Business Start-Ups* magazines. In the new Small Business Convention Center, visitors can participate in real-time chats with well-known entrepreneurs and business professionals. In InfoNET, users will find a database of trade associations, trade periodicals, consultants, government agencies, franchises and market research reports.

Mortgage Online is the first online service in the world to allow users to directly obtain loan approval and close their mortgages. Through Mortgage Online, users can access mortgage information from the nation's largest lenders, shop around for the best mortgage program, lock in on an interest rate and obtain loan approval. (In Categories, open **Business & Finance**, click on **Personal Finance** and select **Financial Services**)

Visitors to the site of ***Smithsonian*** and ***Air & Space*** magazines can review summaries of the monthly magazines' regular columns and features. There's also a forum to chat with editors and authors, a message board for posting queries and an extensive index of back issues. (go **smithsonian**)

In the **Self-Help/Mind Garden** forum, users can find valuable self-help tips, coping resources, daily inspirational messages, meditation practices and bulletin boards (go **selfhelp**). The forum itself is organized into topic areas, such as Anxiety & Anger, Depression, Coping and Self-Esteem, and Coping With Breast Cancer.

Check out the online home of ***Snow Country***, the magazine of mountain sports and living (go **snow**). In this area, users can locate the country's top ski areas, read product test reviews, learn weather and snow conditions, and talk to other skiing enthusiasts in the Liftline chat section.

Smile. PhotoDisc's **Digital Image Forum** is the place on MSN to view and purchase photo images. PhotoDisc's entire collection of more than 10,000 images is available in the Image file library. In the PhotoDisc chat room, users can ask each other specific questions and talk about photography. (go **photodisc**)

New this month on MSN:

Forum	Go
The 21st Century Online Network	future
Cooking Light Online	cooking light
Small Business Network	biznet
Smithsonian/Air & Space	smithsonian
Self-Help/Mind Garden	selfhelp
Snow Country	snow
Digital Image Forum	photodisc

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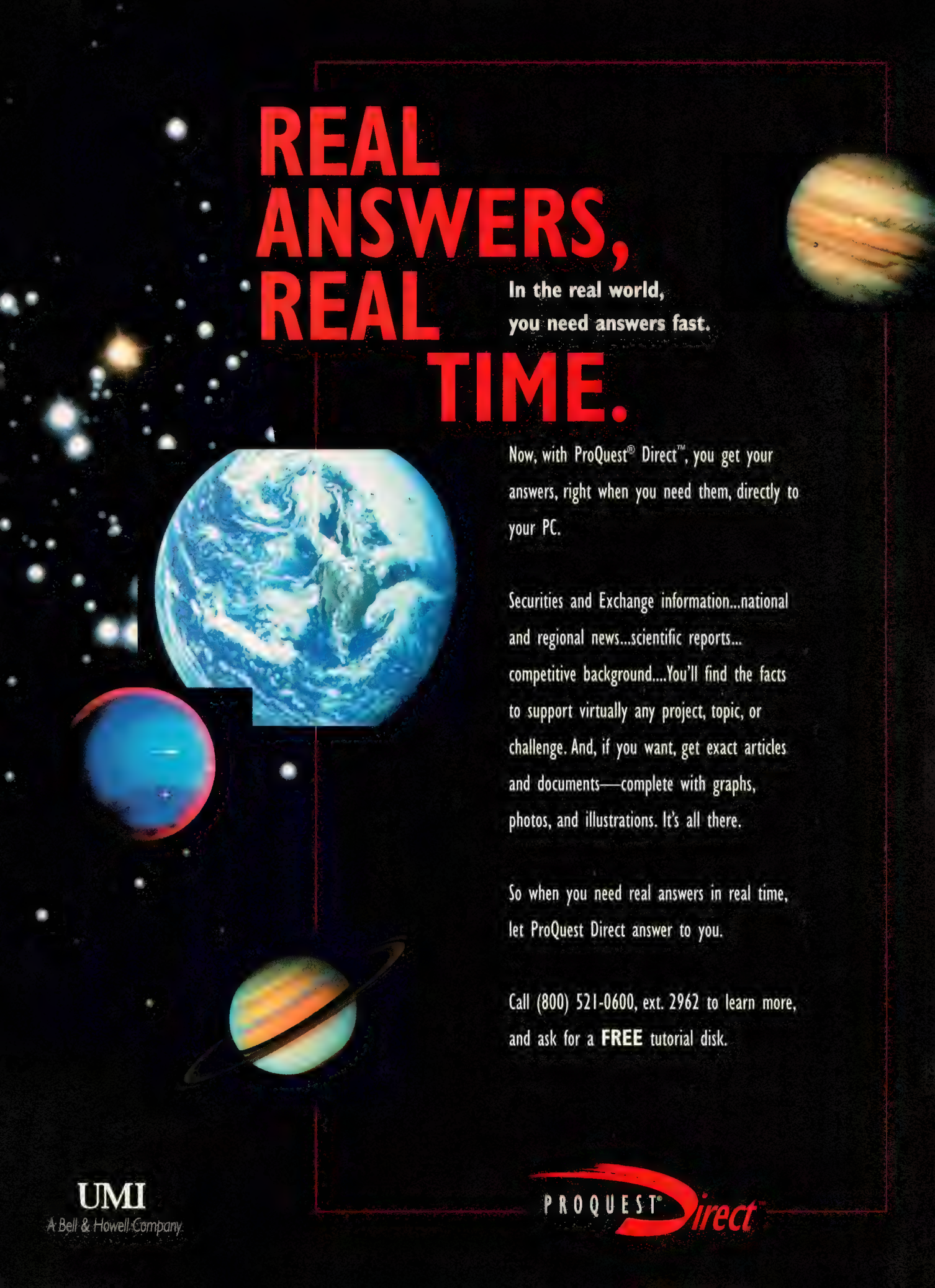

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Starwave Corporation's online services include ESPNET SportsZone, Mr. Showbiz, Outside Online and Family Planet.

Basketball fans should check out ESPN's **NBA.com**, the NBA's new home on the Web. NBA.com contains the official Web sites for all 29 NBA teams. These Home Courts provide team news, player biographies, a full-color arena seating chart and team-specific multimedia.

The site has all the basics, including the latest league news, scores, team standings, complete game and broadcast schedules and features on the hottest players and teams. The site also provides a steady stream of basketball facts, trivia and historical information. In the NBA Theater, sports fans can watch videos of Plays of the Week or listen to audio highlights. For those interested in keeping score, the Official NBA Scorecard produces a scorecard for every NBA game.

AT&T

25 First St.
Cambridge, MA 02141
voice: 617-252-5477

AT&T's new **Personal Online Services** will soon introduce its health and fitness content, helping users find information on everything from dieting and nutrition to workouts, yoga, first aid and mental health. The names of local, regional and national specialists, support groups, spas, pharmacies and other resources will also be available.

IVI Publishing (Web: **http://www.ivi.com/**) will be the first content provider for the health and fitness service. The company is the digital publisher of materials from the Mayo Clinic, Time-Life and *HEALTHNEWS*, the sister publication of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Customers will be able to connect to Personal Online Services from any online service that offers access to the Web. In addition to content for families, information for business and professional markets will also be provided by AT&T Interchange Online Network (Web: **http://www.ichange.com/**).

TEN

562 Mission St.
Suite 510
San Francisco, CA 94105
voice: 415-495-0743
Web: http://www.ten.net/

Total Entertainment Network (TEN) works with the PC industry's leading game developers to bring the best of their content online. Designed for young adults, TEN recently added several new games to its roster, including Maxis' **SimCity**—one of the best-selling computer games of all time—and Apogee Software's **Duke Nukem 3D**.

Now TEN users can access interactive, multiplayer games, virtual environments, editorial content and community support tools, such as e-mail, the Internet and chat. Users interact with other subscribers through multiplayer and modem-to-modem games in virtual environments and through messaging services.

In addition to the new games, TEN plans to feature other forms of interactive entertainment, such as music and comics.

eWorld

Apple Computer, Inc.
20525 Mariani Ave.
Cupertino, CA 95014
voice: 800-775-4556

eWorld recently underwent a facelift to improve the way in which users access its forums, information and the Internet.

Web sites are now listed in directories, along with eWorld's own content, which has been arranged alphabetically and by topic to help members navigate the service. Short descriptions of each site also aid subscribers in finding the information that most interests them.

In addition, eWorld recently added a new publication to its growing portfolio of Web offerings. **WebCity Gazette** is a biweekly update about Internet content developments of interest to Macintosh users. Each WebCity Gazette will spotlight a current event and point users to relevant Web sites. In addition, each issue will include an in-depth feature on various popular Internet sites. Check out WebCity Gazette at **http://www.world.com/gazette/times/**. OA

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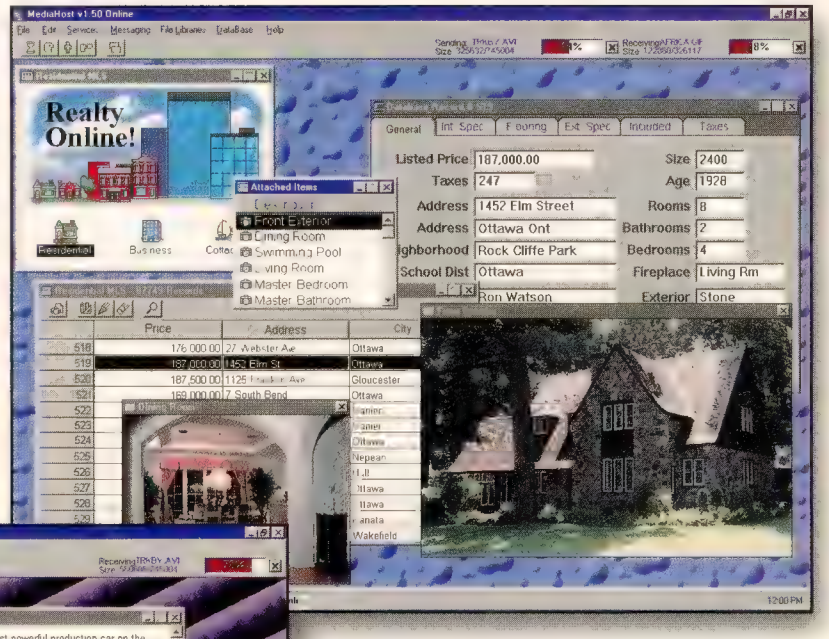

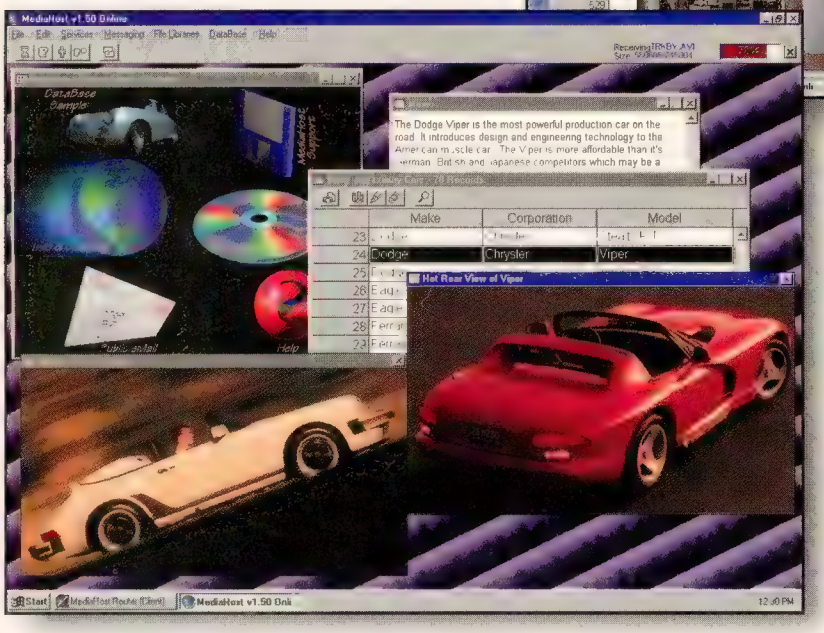

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ClipBoard

Catch up on the latest news, sites and product information.

33,600 bps

Modem Update

The 33.6 kbps modem has arrived. Check out the new models from AT&T Paradyne and U.S. Robotics. These new modems are capable of increasing DCE speed—the communication rate between two modems—from 28.8 kbps to 33.6 kbps.

You can also upgrade your U.S. Robotics v.34 Courier or v.34 Dual Standard modem at no extra cost by simply downloading and running a software utility. Download a file called USRSDL.EXE from the U.S. Robotics bulletin board (708-982-5092, modem) and run it from the DOS command prompt while your modem is switched on and connected to the computer. After you upgrade your modem, you will be able to connect to other, similar modems at a top speed of 33.6 kbps instead of 28.8 kbps. *—Lenny Bailes*

Rain and Snow Online

Winter's here, and you're probably surrounded by news of wind-chill factors, rain, ice and snow. While newspapers, television and radio provide weather news, cyberspace also offers a variety of valuable weather resources.

At the following Internet sites, users can learn the latest weather forecasts, download weather-related maps and even take part in discussion groups:

***The National Weather Service** has a comprehensive Web page (**http://cominfo.nws.noaa.gov/**) that offers graphics, regional and national weather information and bulletins about dangerous weather conditions.

***The Weather Channel** on cable television (**http://www.infi.net/weather/**) provides national weather reports, including updates on current conditions and five-day forecasts. Users can also access weather maps and links to other weather-related Web sites.

***The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** maintains a dial-up weather service BBS. Users can reach the NOAA Directory Services server by dialing 202-606-4653, modem. Once you've connected and you see a prompt with the word *Xyplex,* type **c esdim1**. At the login prompt, type **gopher**.

To find up-to-date regional and national forecasts on CompuServe, America Online and Prodigy, simply search with the word **weather**. *—David Noack*

Photography: Tony Stone Images

The Multimedia PC Review

Are you thinking about buying a new computer? ONLINE ACCESS has reviewed three computer systems to help make your purchase decision a little easier. Each of the following computers has a 100 MHz Pentium microprocessor, 1 GB hard drive, graphics or video card, sound card, speakers and at least 16 MB of RAM.

Gateway P5-100 Family PC

Gateway preinstalls and configures all of the software and hardware for its system, making the initial setup quick and easy. Users will be eager to test the computer's 16-bit Sound Blaster sound card, Altec Lansing ACS-5 external speakers and nine CDs, which contain 51 multimedia programs for the quad-speed CD-ROM drive.

Although the video files we downloaded looked great, there were a few minor glitches with the 64-bit PCI graphics accelerator, especially when WordPerfect 6.1 was operating. Overall, however, the Gateway P5-100 works well with multimedia files. To better view graphics and multimedia, users may want to upgrade their 15-inch Vivitron color monitors to the 17-inch model. Although the computer's price varies depending on the hardware added, the system sells for $2,759 (which includes the 28.8 kbps fax modem). For more information, call 800-846-2000, voice.

Compaq Presario CDS 992

First-time computer buyers should look into the Compaq Presario CDS 992 with a 14.4 kbps modem. Setting up this computer is as simple as plugging in a few cables. The instruction manual is user-friendly, and the preloaded Compaq Welcome Center tutorial makes learning about the computer's features, such as its built-in, two-way speakerphone, fun and easy.

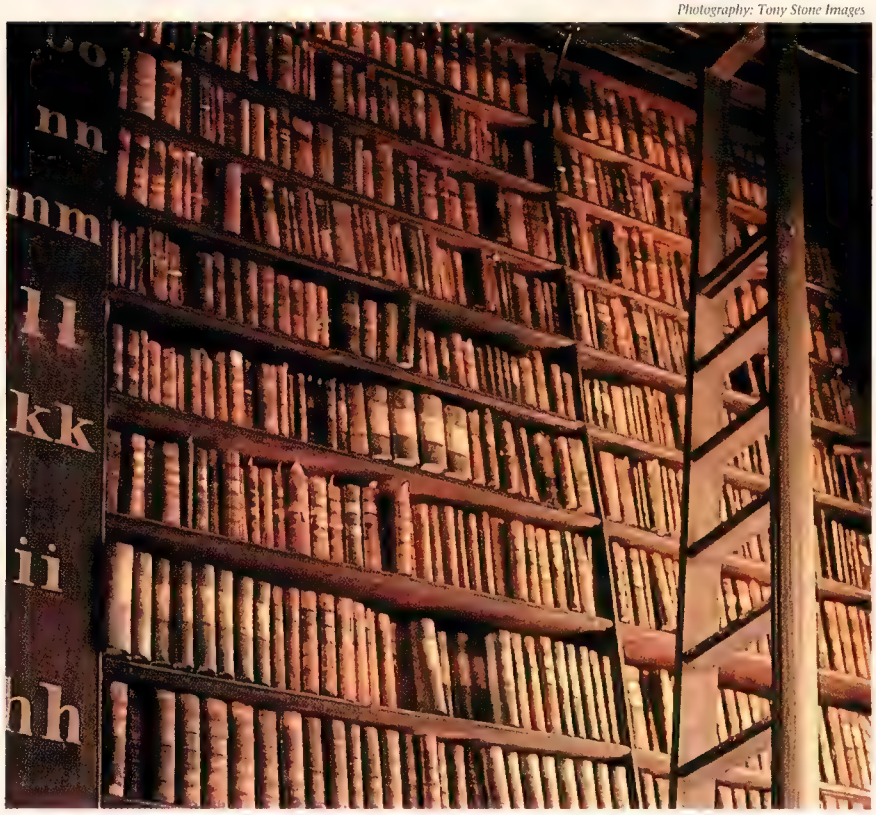
This easy-to-use computer does fall short, however, when it comes to sound performance. Because the speakers are integrated into the monitor to save space, you can't control the volume by turning a knob on the monitor. Instead, you have to use one of several audio applications or a control key command.

The suggested retail price for the Compaq Presario CDS 992 system, including the Presario 150 multimedia monitor, is $2,848. For more information, call 800-345-1518, voice. —*Stephanie Johnson*

Midwest Micro

Midwest Micro's P5-100 Home PC comes preloaded with Windows 95, a quad-speed CD-ROM drive, a 28.8 kbps fax modem and an eight-bay tower case, which holds all the required computer processing hardware. This system offers top-notch sound performance thanks to its external Altec Lansing ACS-31 speakers, which include a subwoofer. On the visual side, the ATI Mach 64 graphics accelerator and the 17-inch, digital color monitor bring out the best in video files. The biggest drawbacks to this system are its noisy keyboard and a hard-to-follow instruction manual, which doesn't make installing additional software very easy. The high-end, multimedia computer retails for $2,499, the best bargain of the three. For more information, call 800-760-1185, voice.

Photography: Tony Stone Images



In a Word

If computer lingo confuses you, **The Free On-line Dictionary of Computing** (FOLDOC) can help. FOLDOC is a searchable dictionary of definitions and explanations for 8,000 computer terms and topics, such as programming language names, types of operating systems, networking, programming conventions, computing standards, companies, products and more. Most entries also offer links to related resources on the Net. Visit The Free On-line Dictionary of Computing at **http://wombat.doc.ic.ac.uk**. *—Catherine McNamara*

ClipBoard Extra

Smile and the cyberworld will smile with you. At **The Smiley Dictionary (http://olympe.polytechnique.fr/~violet/Smileys/)**, you'll find out how to make different smiley icons to spruce up your online image. *—CM*

Domain-Name Pain

What's in a name? Everything, when it comes to naming your domain, which is your address in cyberspace.

Businesses have been scurrying to register Internet domain names to ensure that they have ownership of the domains that contain their company and product names. When advertising online, companies select domains that include product brand names that consumers recognize.

As a result, in July 1995 companies registered 11,000 domain names, up 9,000 from July 1994. The Procter & Gamble Company alone registered 52 Internet addresses last August to protect its products' future positions online. Addresses that include product names, such as Aleve, Attends, Charmin, Folgers and Clearasil, are now secured by the company, as are the body parts and conditions for which the products are intended (pimples.com).

Until recently, the National Science Foundation (NSF) had funded the registration of these domain names. But in mid-September, the NSF decided to shift most of the $5.5 million burden onto the commercial, network and nonprofit organizations that are registering .com, .net and .org addresses.

Why? Absorbing the registration cost was exceeding the NSF's budget, says David Graves, an Internet business manager for Network Solutions, which operates InterNIC Registration Services, the NSF's domain-registration company. In order to maintain domain names, the NSF now has no choice but to charge companies, networks and organizations a fee of $50 a year. Only educational (.edu) and governmental (.gov) domains have been spared the charge.

Butch Corson, vice president of Internet services for Network Solutions, says that users' custom domain names that are registered by Internet service providers will also cost $50.

"The high volume of registration certainly shows the commercial interest in the Internet and in doing business online," Graves says. With 600 applications for new domain names arriving daily, the NSF hopes that the fee will discourage the mass-registration of well-known names that sometimes results in trademark disputes. *—Heath Row* OA

By Catherine McNamara

Online Events

Catch what's going on online

CNN Online

Murder!
Thurs. Jan. 11 at 9 p.m. EST
CompuServe
go **ojforum**

Motley Fool

Playoff Madness
Wed. Jan. 10 at 10 p.m. EST
America Online
keywords **fool dome**

Art Talk
Wed. Jan. 17 at 10 p.m. EST
America Online
keyword **rogue**

Super Bowl
Wed. Jan. 24 at 10 p.m. EST
America Online
keywords **fool dome**

SPINonline
January
America Online
keyword **spin**

Outside Online

Skiing Anyone?
January
Web **http://www.starwave.com**

information.

HERO Interactive

Comics Talk
Thurs. Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. EST
The Microsoft Network
go **hero**

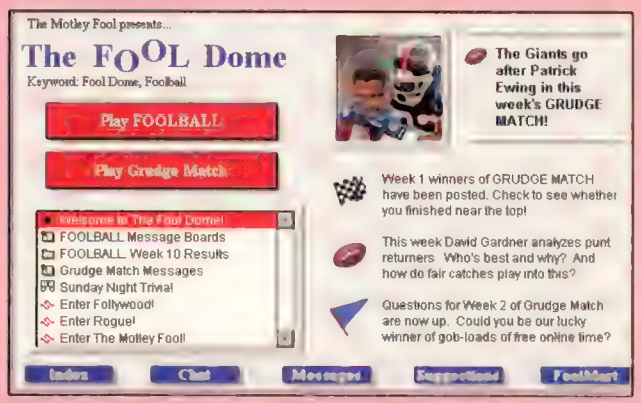
ESPNET SPORTSZONE NFL

ESPNET SportsZone

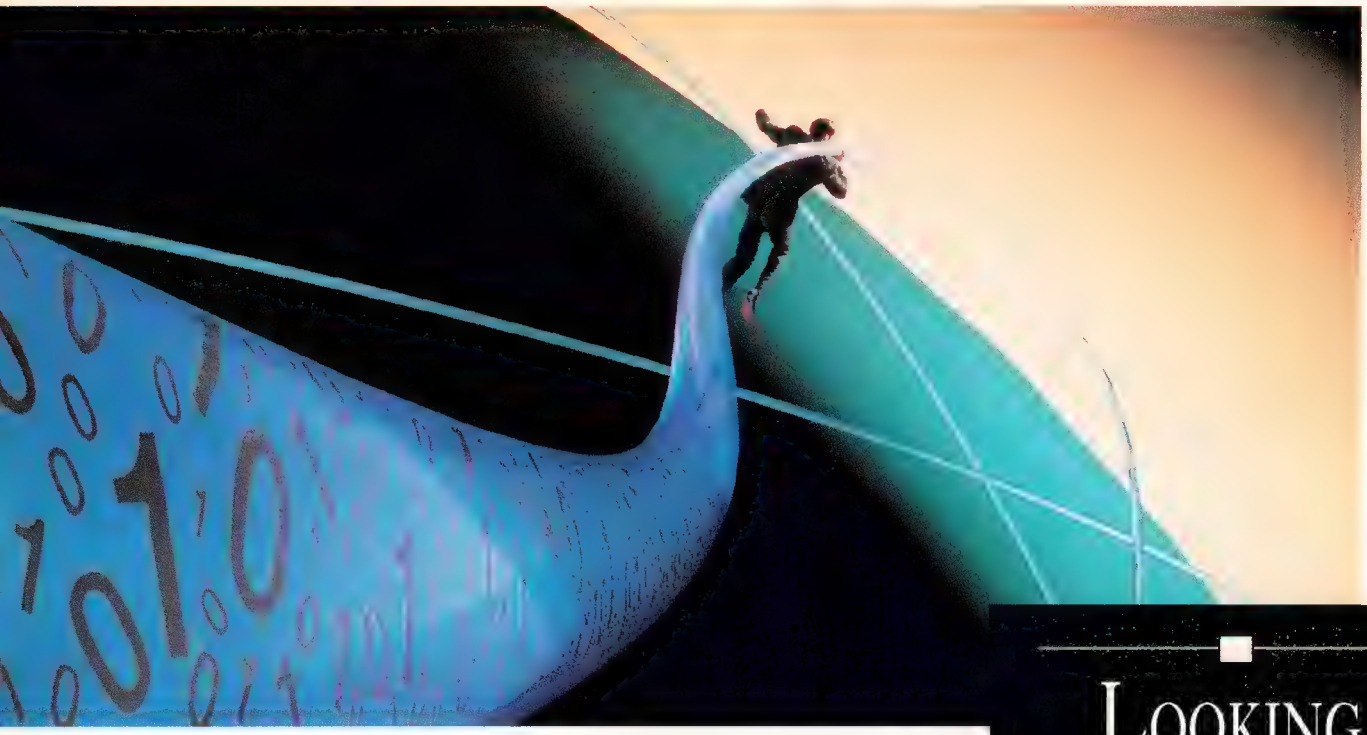
College Football
January
Web **http://www.starwave.com**

Super Bowl Coverage
January
Web **http://www.starwave.com**

Recruiting News
January
Web **http://www.starwave.com**


The Motley Fool presents...
The FOOL Dome
Keyword: Fool Dome, Football
Play FOOLBALL
Play Grudge Match
Welcome to The Fool Dome!
FOOLBALL Message Boards
FOOLBALL Week 10 Results
Grudge Match Messages
Sunday Night Trivia!
Enter Follywood!
Enter Rogue!
Enter The Motley Fool!
The Giants go after Patrick Ewing in this week's GRUDGE MATCH!
Week 1 winners of GRUDGE MATCH have been posted. Check to see whether you finished near the top!
This week David Gardner analyzes punt returners. Who's best and why? And how do fair catches play into this?
Questions for Week 2 of Grudge Match are now up. Could you be our lucky winner of gob-loads of free online time?
Index
Chat
Messages
Suggestions
FoolMail

THE INTERNET



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Internet Insider

By Jim Romenesko

Get the inside information about Net news, cool sites and other hot topics online.

Net Personality

Don Giller is the king of late night TV—at least on the **alt.fan.letterman** newsgroup. If a user asks a question about David Letterman's show, Giller's almost certain to post an answer.

Giller, a 44-year-old music typesetter living in New York City, is a Letterman expert. He's taped every show since February 1985 and has compiled a computer database of Letterman trivia. "I have 19,000 hours of shows on videotape," Giller says.

Although Giller didn't get on the Internet until May 1994, he found the posts to the newsgroup amusing. "The discussions ranged from pathetic to interesting," he says. "I did the smart thing and lurked for a couple of days before I jumped in. A few people asked things that nobody seemed to know, and I just gave the answers. Eventually, I earned some credibility."

Giller's e-mail address, **donz5@aol.com**, is well known to Letterman fans all over the Net. He is a prolific poster who just sticks to the facts and refuses to engage in gossip. "I'll jump on the computer [to read the newsgroup] four or five times a day," Giller says. Even Letterman's staff know who he is and occasionally ask him for information. For example, recently they wanted a list of dates that Letterman staff members appeared on the show.

Giller's goal is to publish a book that chronicles every guest, musician and staff member who's been with Letterman over the years. Three publishers have given him the thumbs-down on the idea, but Giller's optimistic.

While Giller has befriended drummer Anton Fig and other show employees, he's not expecting to become Letterman's best friend, and he really doesn't want to be. "I keep a respectful distance," says Giller. "I suspect Dave's saying, 'Oh no, another geek who's capitalizing on my success,' and I think that's a legitimate gripe." So Giller just keeps on posting and stays out of Dave's way.

News You Can Use

- There's a new Web-searching tool called Excite at **http://www.excite.com**. The added value is that Excite lets you search both the Web and Usenet.
- The World File Project brings files spread across the Web together in one place at **http://www.filepile.com**. It's a valuable site, but I offer one caveat—it's largely subscription-based. Some features, however, are free.
- If you're looking for a long-lost friend's e-mail address, check out OKRA (**http://okra.ucr.edu/okra/**), an easy-to-use locator from the net.citizen directory service. I found several friends' addresses, as well as my own. Thus, OKRA gets my kudos.
- *USA Today* tried to charge more than $10 a month for access to its Web pages at **http://www.usatoday.com**. But that failed, and now the news is free. The pages are informative but slow-going because of the large graphics.

- I've found another great daily listing of new Web pages called What's New Too at **http://newtoo.manifest.com/**. On most days, the page offers 500 new sites, so start surfing!

The Insider Hotlist

SonicNet
http://www.sonicnet.com

This is the only Web page I know that provides soothing background music (via RealAudio) while you cruise the site. Largely focused on music, SonicNet also has some general-interest articles on such topics as romance and dating, as well as a chat forum, funky graphics and sound files.

suck.
http://www.suck.com

Call it gossip with a cynical attitude. This snarling, daily commentary is often mean but always entertaining. The authors are self-proclaimed "buzzsaw" journalists, and nobody's spared their cuts, including the loved-by-liberals television show, *TV Nation* and conservative icon Newt Gingrich. There's no political agenda here—just a few hard knocks at popular culture.

The Drew Barrymore Page
http://www.wfu.edu/~david/drew/

She was just a tyke in *E.T.* and grew up considerably by the time she flashed David Letterman on his show last year. The energetic Drew Barrymore has an extensive fan club on the Web, which includes RealAudio interviews and photos of the star, along with her film history and QuickTime movies.

GI Joe World Wide Web Fan Club
http://www.localnet.com/~gijoe1/

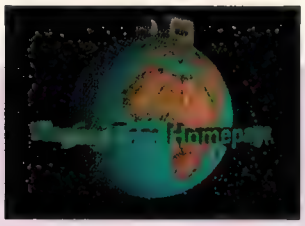
Both little kids and big kids who grew up with this military doll will enjoy the GI Joe Web site. With a touch of nostalgia, you can read about GI Joe's history and the childhood memories of GI Joe collectors. There are also classified ads for collectors and a list of GI Joe convention dates.

Philadelphia City Paper Interactive
http://www.cpcn.com/contents.html
San Francisco Bay Guardian
http://www.sfbayguardian.com

The daily rags are rushing to the Web, while feature-oriented weeklies seem to be taking their time. However, a few weeklies have set up shop on the Web, featuring local stories that will interest even a national audience. Two of my favorites that don't lose their alternative edge while drifting to mainstream audiences are the Philadelphia City Paper Interactive and the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*.

The Unofficial Colin Powell Web Site
http://www.umr.edu/~sears/primary/powell.html

He's an author and a hero to some, but does Colin Powell have what it takes to be a presidential candidate? Apparently not, but these Webmasters continue their Colin Powell campaign. You'll also find links to Republican candidates' home pages here.



The Peeping Tom Home Page
http://www.ts.umu.se/~spaceman/camera.html

While the title may imply that it's voyeuristic, The Peeping Tom Home Page actually contains dozens of links to Web cameras pointed at various objects, from the tired Stanford coffee pot to the more interesting Seattle Space Needle and the romantic Niagara Falls. This site is especially beneficial for Web newbies.

The Ronald Reagan Home Page
http://www.erinet.com/bkottman/reagan.html

They called him the Teflon President, but he remains as popular as ever. If you're nostalgic for the former President's reign, you'll find comfort perusing this site, which was clearly created by a Republican.

The Alzheimer's Association
http://www.alz.org

Since Reagan's announcement that he's suffering from Alzheimer's, the disease has gained more public attention. This site provides basic information about the disease, including public policy, 10 warning signs and how to contact your local Alzheimer's Association chapter.

The Discovery Channel
http://www.discovery.com

If you're a science buff, this site is for you. From cable channel to Web page, consider it hip, not nerdy. Thick glasses are not required. OA

*Jim Romenesko can be reached via e-mail at **obscure@csd.uwm.edu**.*

Sites of the Month

SonicNet http://www.sonicnet.com

suck. http://www.suck.com

The Drew Barrymore Page
http://www.wfu.edu/~david/drew/

GI Joe World Wide Web Fan Club
http://www.localnet.com/~gijoe1/

Philadelphia City Paper Interactive
http://www.cpcn.com/contents.html

San Francisco Bay Guardian
http://www.sfbayguardian.com

The Unofficial Colin Powell Web Site
http://www.umr.edu/~sears/primary/powell.html

The Peeping Tom Home Page
http://www.ts.umu.se/~spaceman/camera.html

The Ronald Reagan Home Page
http://www.erinet.com/bkottman/reagan.html

The Alzheimer's Association
http://www.alz.org

The Discovery Channel
http://www.discovery.com

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"Anyone interested in desktop publishing will be interested in Web publishing." Eric Bickford, Mac Webmasters, MacWeek (06.12.95)

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By Jack M. Germain

Before You Buy, Test Drive

Check out these power files before you upgrade to Windows 95.

This month's Power User column is for PC users who are considering making a switch to Windows 95 and need more information about upgrading. The three files discussed here will help you determine whether you and your computer are ready for Windows 95. You'll find out how to run your favorite software on Windows 95, whether your computer can support the system and the differences between Windows 95 and Windows 3.1. If you choose not to upgrade, there is also a file that will put your tired Windows 3.1 program on steroids.

Ready, Set, Upgrade?

Here are three file programs that will help you determine whether Windows 95 is for you.

Windows 95 Applications Help File (WIN95APP.HLP)

WIN95APP.HLP, which is a Microsoft Windows 3.11 help file, provides an extensive report of more than 2,500 popular DOS and Windows applications that Microsoft tested on Windows 95. The file provides details on test results, problems with the applications and the testers' "work-arounds," temporary fixes for software difficulties.

The free Windows 95 Applications Help file can be downloaded from CompuServe or Microsoft's Windows 95 Web page at **http://www.microsoft.com/windows/**.

Windows 95 Demo (AUTODEMO.EXE)

AUTODEMO.EXE is a Windows 95 demo program from Microsoft that provides a detailed, graphical tour of Windows 95 features and functions. Once the file is installed, it seeks out your existing hardware to determine if it's suitable for an upgrade. You will learn if you have adequate hard drive space and whether your processor, memory and peripherals support Windows 95. However, the quick diagnosis won't report on how well your computer will run under the new operating system. It merely confirms whether your system meets (or exceeds) the Windows 95 operating requirements.

The file also gives you an overview of other Microsoft products for Windows 95, such as Microsoft Plus!, a Windows 95 add-on software package featuring Internet access, data compression, system maintenance and visual enhancements. You will find the free

file on CompuServe and the Microsoft Windows 95 Web page.

Windows 95 Q & A (TOUR95.ZIP)

TOUR95.ZIP is a report filled with answers to all of your questions about how Windows 95 compares to Windows 3.1 and Windows for Workgroups. Read about performance factors and preparations for upgrading, installing, customizing and using Windows 95. The report also includes analysis and tips from Ziff-Davis. Look for TOUR95 .ZIP on CompuServe's ZD NET Executives Online Forum or on the ZD NET Web page at **http://www.ziff.com/**.

Pumping Up Windows 3.1

If you decide not to upgrade to Windows 95, here is a file that will enhance the performance of Windows 3.1 or higher.

Windows 3.1 Task Bar (WINBAR.ZIP)

WINBAR.ZIP is a program that adds pep to your existing Windows 3.1 interface. You can use Win Bar as a supplement to the Windows Program Manager or as a powerful replacement for the standard Windows shell. The program provides a task bar at the bottom of your screen, where you can add program names, groups or icons. The applications placed in the task bar are accessible from any open window, providing for easy multitasking capabilities. You can see a group's contents or launch any program on your system without leaving your current screen.

Other programmers have developed software programs and versions similar to Win Bar. You will find the programs in many online services' software libraries. Many of these programs have the same file name (WINBAR.ZIP), so download more than one and compare the features. The latest and most useful version of WINBAR.ZIP was written by Douglas Boling for *PC Magazine*. This program is free and distributed only online through CompuServe, America Online and the Microsoft Windows 95 Web page. OA

Power Files

If you're thinking about upgrading to Windows 95, download these helpful files from the online services. Note: These files can also be downloaded from the ONLINE ACCESS Web Edition at **http://www.oamag.com/**.

WIN95APP.HLP

CompuServe: PCWeek Online (go **pcweek**); in Library 1, select Windows 95 Software Compatibility or MS Windows News Forum (go **winnews**); in Library 2, select Windows 95 SW Compatibility.

Web: Microsoft Windows 95 Web page (**http://www.microsoft.com/windows/**)

AUTODEMO.EXE

CompuServe: MS Windows News Forum (go **winnews**); in Library 2, select Windows 95 AutoDemo.

Web: Microsoft Windows 95 Web page (**http://www.microsoft.com/windows/**)

TOUR95.ZIP

CompuServe: ZD NET's Executives Online Forum (go **exec**); in Library 4, select Hands On Windows 95.

Web: ZD NET Web page (**http://www.ziff.com/**)

WINBAR.ZIP

CompuServe: PC MagNet Tips/ Utilities Forum (go **ZNT:TIPS**); in Library 2, select WINBAR ZIPped Archive

America Online: Windows Forum (keywords **windows forum**); click on the Software Libraries icon, select the Software Search icon and enter **WINBAR.ZIP**.

Web: Microsoft Windows 95 Web page (**http://www.microsoft.com/windows/**)

By Len Strazewski

Cybermalls

Could this new retail trend put an end to some storefronts?

Most experiments in online marketing are still limited to an electronic version of catalog shopping, which is used mainly by fringe businesses to supplement ordinary marketing channels. Although multimedia sound and video files make online catalogs a little more interesting, the retail concept is still mail-order via e-mail.

Concerns about the security of online financial transactions, such as credit card purchases on the Web, have prevented the retail industry from becoming a true, online business network. However, with the development of new security techniques, hardware and software, the cornerstones of consumer marketing—small businesses, service companies and national franchises—may soon be trading in overpriced retail space for addresses on the World Wide Web. In a year or two, there may even be a contemporary equivalent of a "land rush" as everyone stakes their claim for a Web page.

Better security will trigger this flurry of activity, but the real drive will be economics. Some companies have already started testing the waters of this new retail venture.

Web Site Versus Mall

If your company conducts financial or service transactions, there are no particular advantages to having a physical store location. "It's all overhead," says Alex D. Zoghlin, president of Neoglyphics Media Corporation, an Internet consulting and marketing company in Wilmette, Illinois. Neoglyphics has created a prototype online shopping mall called Webmart (**http://webmart.org**) in hopes of attracting online retailers and franchises. A virtual storefront in Webmart can cost as little as $250 a month, which shines in comparison to office space rent that can cost thousands of dollars a month.

Acting as a financial clearinghouse, Webmart receives orders, processes credit card statements and safely forwards confirmation to retail participants via e-mail in about the same time it takes to do ordinary retail transactions. One Webmart client, Chips Travel in

Illustration: Adam Cohen © ISS Stock Illustration

Evanston, Illinois, posts a toll-free telephone number on its Web home page for consumers interested in obtaining travel information. According to a Webmart service report, as many as 8,000 Internet users access the Chips Travel Web page daily—many times more than the number of customers who call or drop by the travel agency's office.

Pizzas and Parcels

Franchise companies should find cyberretailing particularly attractive. Major franchises have become so expensive that many small business investors can afford neither the fee nor the real estate costs. Franchise companies on the Internet have a whole new landscape to develop in hopes of attracting investors with less money to spend.

Wichita-based Pizza Hut™, for example, has been experimenting for nearly a year with a Web page (**http://www.pizzahut.com**) that accepts pizza orders for a store in Santa Cruz, California. Pizza Hut chose the Santa Cruz location for its test sight because of the store's proximity to several universities. Users simply need to fill out an online order form and include their address for delivery.

Pizza Hut is also marketing Pizza Hut Express stores, which accept only pick-up and delivery orders. These kitchen-only locations, which cost the company only a fraction of the rent of dine-in restaurants, serve as processing centers for online orders in their areas. Plans are in the works for developing a national order entry and referral system through the Web, which would allow users around the country to place orders from their computers. The orders would then be routed to Pizza Hut restaurants in customers' areas.

Online retailing isn't limited to just pizza, however. Parcel Plus (**http://www.parcelplus.com**), a package shipping and business services franchise in Annapolis, Maryland, recently developed a bundle of Internet services for its franchisees to offer customers. Currently, online users can access a directory of Parcel Plus store locations and phone numbers. Vice President of Operations Kellen Furness believes that the stores will eventually incorporate Web pages and e-mail in their marketing and operations to track orders and schedule pickups and deliveries.

Virtually any service company that picks up, delivers or schedules visits can use cyberretailing as a substitute for storefront retailing. Maid services, building contractors and even home medical services are all looking to market their companies in cyberspace—where the rent is still cheap and the real estate plentiful. OA

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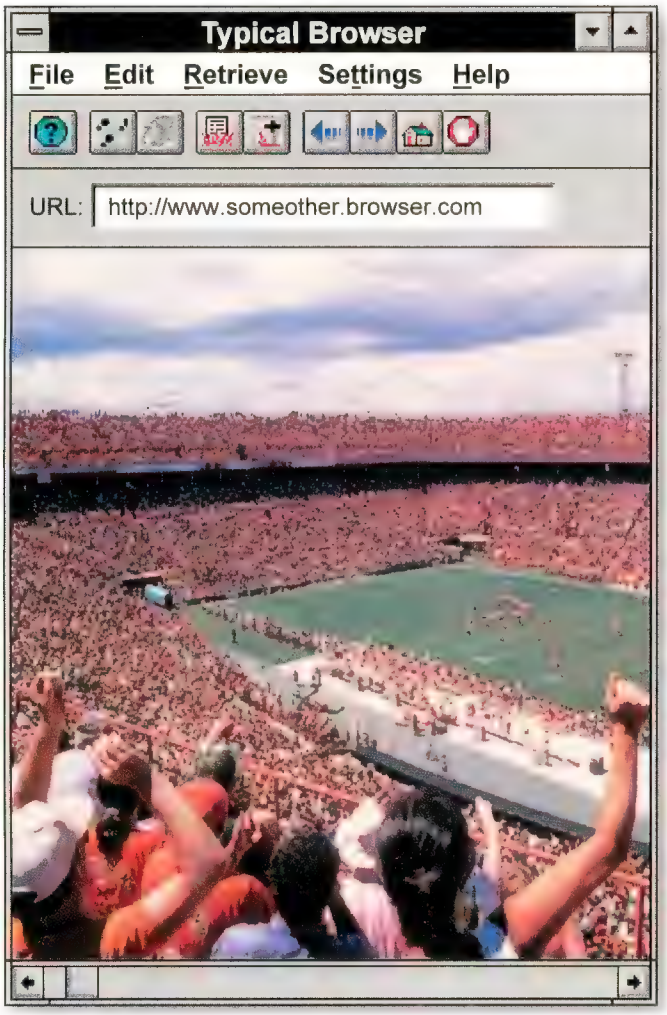

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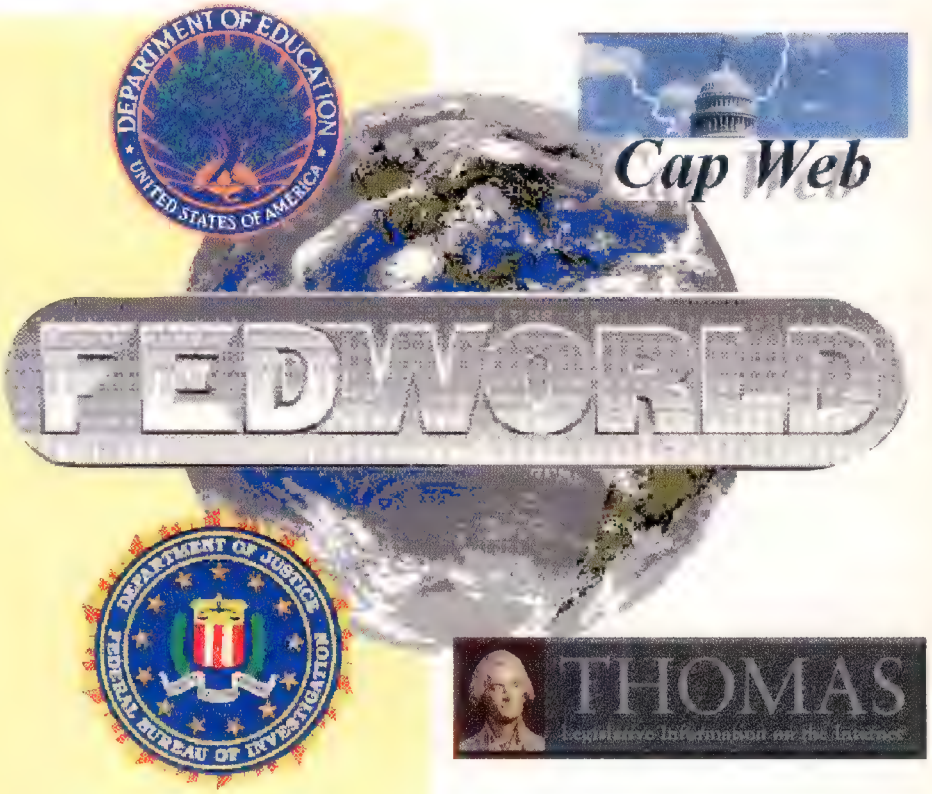
By Gary Robbins

FedWorld

This site links you to a massive selection of government sites.



In less time than it takes you to wash the dishes, you can find out how your congressional representative voted on a bill, inquire about Social Security benefits or learn how to apply for a college tuition grant. All of this useful information can be found in a single visit to FedWorld at **http://www.fedworld.gov/**, a treasure trove of government Internet sites.

However, because FedWorld's many offerings are listed alphabetically under broad and sometimes confusing subject headings, you could easily spend hours scanning the massive database. Parts of the database are updated frequently and the offerings tend to move to new places as more pages are added. If you don't have time to wander around, I suggest that you visit the following places.

L for Legislative Branch

A good place to start is the Legislative Branch, which is appropriately listed under the letter *L*. My goal was to find out as much as I could about my Congressman, Dana Rohrabacher, a California Republican. Within minutes, I had Rohrabacher's office phone number and snail mail address (he doesn't have an e-mail address), as well as a list of committee assignments and bills he has sponsored.

The Legislative Branch also contains a primer on how laws are made, as well as a searchable version of the Constitution of the United States. Here are some other worthwhile sections to check out under the same heading:

- Thomas—You can call up the complete text of every congressional representative's bills with this fast search tool. Thomas includes an electronic version of the *Congressional Record*, which allows you to monitor the daily proceedings of the House and the Senate. Special attention is given to controversial bills, particularly those that are currently the subject of floor debate.
- PoliticsUSA—You'll also want to skim through PoliticsUSA, which is buried in the Political Page link of the Cap Web feature. PoliticsUSA is a regularly updated database with information about where major political candidates will be appearing. I clicked on Pat Buchanan, which linked me to his speaking schedule, staff roster and mailing address, as well as a short biography. There is also information about where the presidential aspirant stands on such hot issues as abortion and immigration.
- The Jefferson Project—Also found under Cap Web's Political Page, The Jefferson Project is a clutch of electronic magazines that is as wonderful and diverse as the USA itself. Among the selections are *Congressional Quarterly*, *Mother Jones* and *The Other Voice*, which describes itself as a "typical anti-authoritarian, anti-technology, anarcho-primitivist-vegan-rag."

H for Health Care

In FedWorld's Health Care section, you'll find links to such government monoliths as the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Occupational Safety and Health

Administration (OSHA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). While some of these agencies have great Web pages, the pages of others are lacking. Here are a few of the good ones to add to your hotlist and a few bad ones to avoid:

The Good: The CDC site is the best of the lot, providing clear, practical information on everything from AIDS and the flu to malaria and yellow fever. There are food and water advisories here, too. If you're planning a trip overseas, don't miss the CDC's Traveler's Health section, which identifies health risks in various countries. There is also reference material on vaccination requirements and information about government inspections on cruise ships.

The FDA site, which can be found on the HHS Agencies on the Internet page, uses a series of simple, colorful icons to identify its programs on drugs, toxicology, inspections and imports. There is also information about the drugs that were approved over the past year, as well as easy-to-understand consumer guides on food items and drugs. For a real eye-opener, click on The Food Safety Test, which is buried in the Consumer Advice section of the Foods link on the home page.

The Bad: The OSHA home page is poorly designed. It does, however, explain workplace safety and health issues in layman's terms, and it tells people how to draft cogent, detailed complaints.

In general, the HHS Web page isn't very useful. There's more information about the agency's history than about its programs like Medicaid. However, you can find descriptions of programs, such as Head Start, Child Welfare Services and Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Some of the material, particularly the information on AFDC, is horribly written and confusing. And there is little practical advice on how to apply for help. Instead, HHS asks users to call various telephone numbers for additional information.

E for Education and Humanities

The U.S. Department of Education, found under the letter *E* on FedWorld's main menu, has a wonderful Money Matters section on its image map, which provides essential information on financial aid eligibility requirements, how to determine financial need and individual aid programs, such as work study and Pell grants. If you're just out of college and facing a mountain of debt, you may want to read the sections about federal loan deferment and borrowers' rights.

This Web page also includes electronic pamphlets, which are intended to help parents teach their children mathematics and science, as well as discussion areas and searchable databases.

Other FedWorld Goodies

The Social Security Administration, which is hidden under the letter *B*'s Behavior and Society heading, offers explanations of benefits and downloadable applications. There's also a quick reference guide for employers about meeting end-of-year wage reporting requirements.

The quality and breadth of information available are nearly as good on the Web pages devoted to the U.S. Supreme Court and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which you'll find under the letter *J* for Justice, Law and Treasury. There's a searchable database of U.S. Supreme Court rulings, as well as an electronic version of the FBI's 10 Most Wanted Fugitives List.

Don't fret if I didn't mention a branch of government that you're interested in. Chances are it's on FedWorld, easily one of the most abundant sites on the Internet. OA

Gary Robbins is the science writer for the Orange County Register *in Santa Ana, California. He can be reached via e-mail at* ***garyr41776@aol.com****.*

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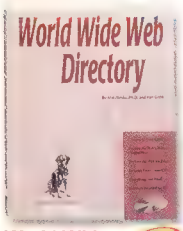

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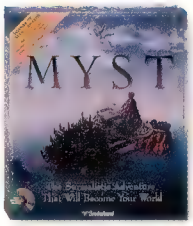

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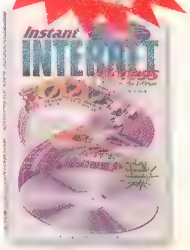

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MAC LCII

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Computer Tutor. 5032404
MAC LC 4mb M

Police Quest: Open Season
Adventure 5002803
DOS 386 4mb M
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Arcade Style 5045109
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WIN 486 4mb M
MAC LCIII

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Gen. Interest 5034103
WIN 386 2mb M
MAC Class

The Bible
Bible 5031703
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Adventure 5024401
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Travel 5011606
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PTS Official Windows '95 Tutorial
Computer Tutor 5043807
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Interact. Game 5034707
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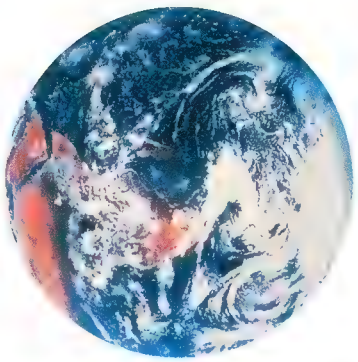


The msn. Report Card

Its Internet access is good, but The Microsoft Network is still a work in progress.

By Carol Freer

The hoopla surrounding the release of Windows 95 and the launch of The Microsoft Network (MSN)—the online service that comes bundled with the operating system—spread from one end of the globe to the other. Both Microsoft and the news media had us thinking that this package would be the greatest thing since sliced bread. Windows 95 would be a revolutionary operating system, and MSN the ultimate point-and-click online service.

Now that the smoke has cleared and the service is up and running, we can finally ask the question How good is it?

Well . . . when it comes to MSN, Microsoft did not exactly reinvent the online wheel. The service, which is available only to Windows 95 users, offers the same standard features, such as chat rooms, files and bulletin boards, as other online services. And while you may see a few interesting MSN content providers, the network can't boast about its *number* of providers—nor its number of users.

Bill Gates' baby does take a giant step forward, however, when it comes to the Internet. MSN is the first service to truly integrate Internet content into its own proprietary programming.

MSN and the Internet

MSN's innovation lies in its ability to get users onto the Internet quickly and painlessly. The company has made it so easy to get on the Net that some may be fooled into thinking that the Internet is a Microsoft creation.

MSN takes the "one online world" approach. It doesn't throw users onto the Internet as the other online services do. Instead, it integrates Internet content throughout the service via its links to notable Web pages and Usenet newsgroups within its forums, newsletters and GuideBooks (MSN's subject-oriented hotlist). This integration makes it easy to find Internet resources on a particular topic. For example, you can pull up the Astronomy & Space Forum and find links to both MSN's Astro BBS and the **sci.space** Usenet newsgroup. Or check out game scores as you link to the ESPN SportsZone Web site from the sports page on MSN News. In other words, you never have to leave the service to sample the Internet. When you access the Web through MSN, the service automatically opens Internet Explorer, MSN's Web browser. You can also navigate a Usenet newsgroup just as you would an MSN bulletin board. These are great ways for new users to cut their teeth on the Internet. And with Windows 95's multitasking capabilities, you can keep all of these windows open as you tool around MSN.

If you would rather chart your own path on the Internet, go to MSN's Internet Center (go **internet**) to access Internet Explorer directly. Then visit the Internet site of your choice by typing in its URL. You can also wade through all of the newsgroups in the Internet Newsgroups folder and choose any one you like. Internet Explorer can also be launched offline. To do so, just click on the icon.

TIP 1: When you first sign on to The Microsoft Network, you have access only to the MSN Service. You must change your dialing settings in order to access the Internet. To do this, choose Connection Settings from the Tools pull-down menu. In the toggle box, select Internet and MSN Service. Then choose a local phone number for Internet connections from the middle toggle box.

Everything you need to access the Internet is included with The Microsoft Network. Your Internet connection on MSN is actually a PPP account running on a 28.8 Kbps phone line. Users do not have to make separate arrangements with an Internet service provider since the software comes preconfigured.

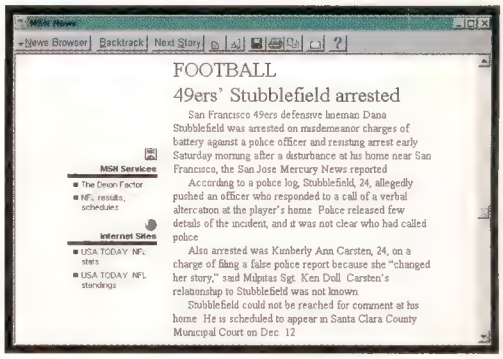
The MSN Internet package includes the following applications:

•Internet Explorer—This modified version of Spry's NCSA Mosaic Web browser is included in Windows 95 and can be used to browse the Web with MSN or another Internet service provider.

•RealAudio—This utility allows you to listen to real-time sound files from National Public Radio, ABC Radio, ESPN and others on the Web.

TIP 2: Although MSN subscribes to all Usenet newsgroups, you must be at least 18 years old and obtain permission in order to access the alternative newsgroups, which begin with the prefix *alt*. To request access, click on How To Access All News in the Internet Newsgroups folder.

•Newsgroups—Newsgroups are presented in the same well-organized format as MSN's bulletin boards. You'll find them inside a folder in The Internet Center, or you can access them via MSN's Web browser.



The Sports Page of MSN News brings you the latest sports coverage, plus links to additional resources on the Internet.

File Edit View Tools Help
msn
THE INTERNET CENTER
Getting on the Internet
About The Internet Center
Core Rules of Netiquette
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All Internet services on The Microsoft Network are found in The Internet Center.

Access Usenet newsgroups through the Internet Newsgroups folder.

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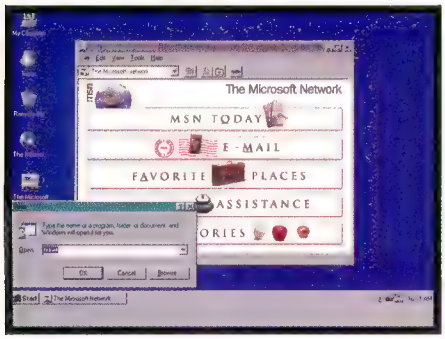
Calling from: Default Location; 9862476
Dialing Properties...
Click Dialing Properties to change how your calls are dialed
Current modem: Reveal 28.8 V.34 Data Fax PM700
Modem Settings...
Click Modem Settings to change settings for this modem

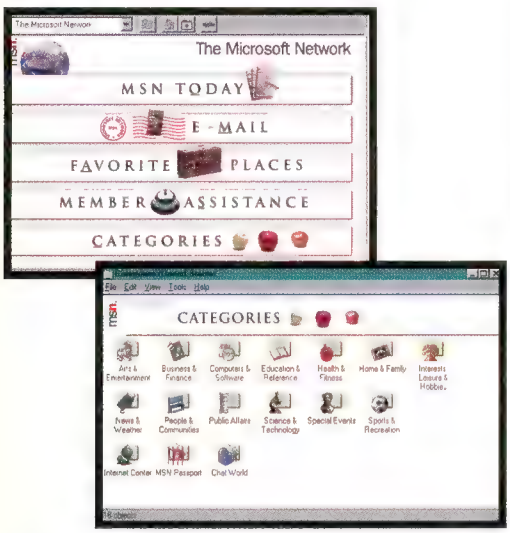
If you want to connect to the Net on MSN, you must choose a local phone number that provides Internet access.



To use telnet, just choose Run from the Windows 95 Start menu. Then type in **telnet**.

NBC makes a splash on MSN with the SuperNet forum, which shows off the network's hit programs like Frasier.

Record your favorite Microsoft Network sites in Favorite Places for easy access the next time you want to visit.



Five areas of The Microsoft Network can be accessed through the main menu, although most of the service's content is ungracefully crammed into the Categories area.

•Telnet and FTP—Telnet and ftp applications, which run with your MSN PPP account, are built into Windows 95. From the Start pull-up menu, choose Run; then type in **ftp** or **telnet**.

One drawback to the Microsoft Internet package is that it is not available to everyone. Currently the service offers Internet access to 85 percent of the United States and Canada. The 15 percent that don't yet have access include some large metropolitan areas like Phoenix and Toronto. The company hopes to offer its online service to these areas in the early part of this year.

Organization of Content

The biggest complaint that MSN users have about the service is its lack of organized content. One frustrated user, Tony DiPasquale of Thornhill, Ontario, says, "It is difficult to find what I need; it seems to be either hidden or all over the map."

TIP 3: The toolbar gives you instant access to commands in the pull-down menus. You can turn the MSN toolbar on and off through the View pull-down option from the main menu.

One reason information is difficult to locate on MSN is that the service's content is concentrated in only one area. While the main menu consists of five headings—MSN Today, E-Mail, Favorite Places, Member Assistance and Categories—the core of MSN's services are inconspicuously located in the option called Categories.

Everything from Arts & Entertainment to Sports & Recreation is rather ungracefully crammed into the 16 general folders that make up the Categories section. As you sift through folders and subfolders in this section, you will come across bulletin boards, chat areas, file libraries and forums from individual content providers like NBC, as well as Web sites and newsgroups.

Although this filing system is familiar to Windows 95 users and easy to navigate, it requires many keystrokes. "I have to open six folders to get what I want," DiPasquale complains. The files are the way to go, however, because there are no organized lists of the service's chat rooms, file libraries, bulletin boards and forums.

TIP 4: To avoid having to open folder upon folder, choose Explore from the File menu to view folders in the form of a directory or tree. You can also customize the arrangement of folders. From the View pull-down menu, you can make the icons larger or smaller, list folder titles instead of icons or view the contents of folders.

To avoid endless sifting through file folders, here are a few ways to quickly access MSN forums:

•Favorite Places—Chances are you'll have a hard time revisiting a site unless you use MSN's Favorite Places option to record your path. From the site, choose Favorite Places from the File pull-down menu. When you want to go back to a particular site, click on Favorite Places from the main menu and select the site's corresponding icon.

•Go words—A Go word will quickly take you to an MSN forum. Unfortunately, MSN's Go words are both illogically named and almost impossible to find. Some, but not all, are listed in a directory under Maps and Information in Member Assistance. For a complete directory of Go words for content provider forums, check out the list that Online Access has compiled on page 43.

TIP 5: To enter a Go word, use the right-hand button on your mouse to click on the MSN icon on the far right corner of the Windows 95 taskbar; then choose Go To and type in the Go word. To find a Go word for a particular forum or icon, click on Properties in the File pull-down menu or see ONLINE ACCESS' list of Go words for MSN content providers on page 43.

•*MSN Today*—Microsoft's stylish, daily newsletter, *MSN Today*, is displayed as you log on to the service. This newsletter is a fairly complete listing of the day's happenings, news and special events on both MSN and the Internet. It also links users to several GuideBooks and navigational resources. With a double click on any of these items, you'll connect directly to the site.

TIP 6: *MSN Today*, The Microsoft Network's daily, online newsletter, takes a long time to download on your screen. If you would rather have this graphics-laden page displayed only upon request, choose Options from the View pull-down menu. In the General file folder, click off the toggle button called MSN Today.

Chat Rooms: In Need of Community

If you want to shoot the breeze about anything that pops into your mind, check out MSN's chat rooms. To converse about a specific topic, however, you may have to look elsewhere for a while, since Microsoft has not yet developed enough of a following to successfully sponsor specialized chats.

General, social chat rooms are always available in MSN's Chat World, where you will find a steady crowd of MSN members. As one user says, MSN's live chat from all over the world is really fascinating, but it needs to be organized in a more coherent, logical way.

Specialized chats, such as the Football Chat and the Art & Design Chat, are scattered throughout the Categories folder. Sponsored by both MSN and independent content providers, these specialized chat topics haven't attracted many users, so you'll probably be hard-pressed to find someone to start a conversation with.

Several celebrity guests, including Jay Leno and Maria Shriver, have participated in MSN's Special Events chats. A large crowd usually gathers for these events, which are pretty slow-going since a host moderates and feeds questions from users to guests. You must open both a spectator and a participant chat window in order to follow the event and to post your questions to the host.

MSN's New Year's Resolutions

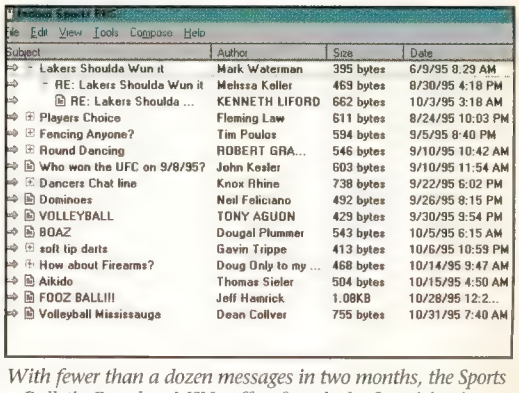
Microsoft is the first to admit that MSN is still a work in progress. At the time this article was written, plans for improvement and expansion in 1996 included:

- Internet access availability to the entire United States.
- Access to MSN via TCP/IP connections for a flat fee.
- Worldwide 28.8 Kbps connection speeds.
- One million users by the service's one-year anniversary on August 24, 1996.
- Additional forums by independent content providers, including the American Medical Association, Cowles Business Media, GE Information Services, Hearst New Media & Technology, LEXIS-NEXIS, the Minority Business Network, Peterson's Guides Inc., QVC Inc. and SportsTicker Enterprises, L.P.

MSN Today is a graphical newsletter displaying daily events on the service.

MSN takes a thematic approach to online chat, patterning the Chat World forum after a hotel. Users gather for public chat in the lobby, then take the elevator to rooms or suites for private conversation.

Jay Leno and Maria Shriver recently entertained the MSN crowd during online special event chats.

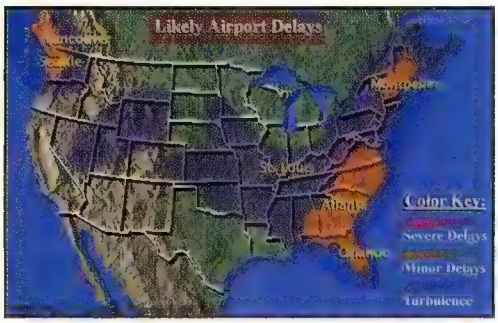


Subject	Author	Size	Date
Lakers Shoulda Wun it	Mark Waterman	395 bytes	6/9/95 8:29 AM
RE: Lakers Shoulda Wun it	Melissa Keller	469 bytes	8/30/95 4:18 PM
RE: Lakers Shoulda ...	KENNETH LIFORD	662 bytes	10/3/95 3:18 AM
Players Choice	Fleming Law	611 bytes	8/24/95 10:03 PM
Fencing Anyone?	Tim Poulos	594 bytes	9/5/95 8:40 PM
Round Dancing	ROBERT GRA...	546 bytes	9/10/95 10:42 AM
Who won the UFC on 9/8/95?	John Kesler	603 bytes	9/10/95 11:54 AM
Dancers Chat line	Knox Rhine	738 bytes	9/22/95 6:02 PM
Dominoes	Neil Feliciano	492 bytes	9/26/95 8:15 PM
VOLLEYBALL	TONY AGUON	429 bytes	9/30/95 9:54 PM
BOAZ	Dougal Plummer	543 bytes	10/5/95 6:15 AM
soft tip darts	Gavin Trippe	413 bytes	10/6/95 10:59 PM
How about Firearms?	Doug Only to my ...	468 bytes	10/14/95 9:47 AM
Aikido	Thomas Sieler	504 bytes	10/15/95 4:50 AM
FOOZ BALL!!!	Jeff Hamrick	1.08KB	10/28/95 12:2...
Volleyball Mississauga	Dean Collver	755 bytes	10/31/95 7:40 AM

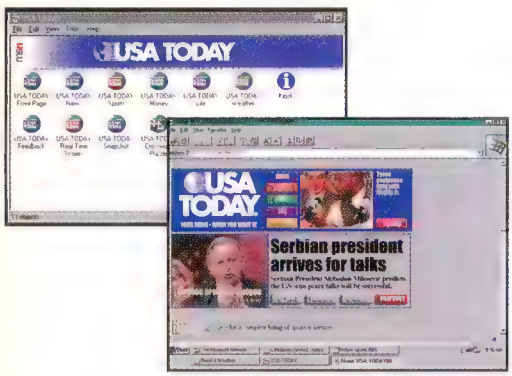
With fewer than a dozen messages in two months, the Sports Bulletin Board on MSN suffers from lack of participation.

SPORTS
recreation
CONTENTS
SPECIAL
baseball
The World Series
For timely information on the upcoming baseball playoffs, look no further. There's no better source of real-time sports information than MSN.
FEATURES
games
Fantasy Sports
Make your fantasy sports a reality in MSN's fantasy sports area. Come inside to find fantasy sports games, magazines, software, tools, ads, and much more!
sailing
Sailing World Magazine
Sailing World magazine has long been the information source for Olympic sailing, the America's Cup, Grand Prix

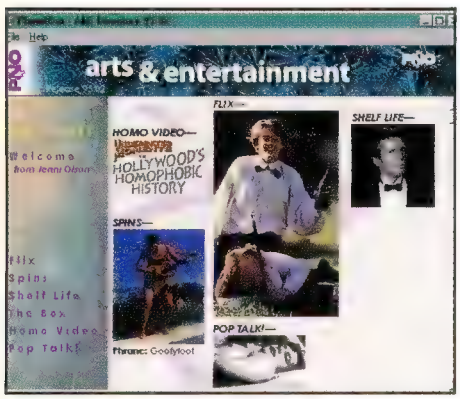
The Sports & Recreation GuideBook outlines MSN's sports offerings.



Before taking to the air, check WeatherLab's Likely Airport Delay map for possible detainments.



Click on any icons in MSN's USA Today folder to access the latest news.



An Arts & Entertainment directory can be found in the Planet-Out forum, an online site for the gay and lesbian community.

TIP 7: To view all of the messages within a specific bulletin board conversation, press the Shift and + keys.

TIP 8: Bulletin board messages can be read and composed offline on MSN, which saves avid users a lot of time and money. This way, you need to go online only to retrieve messages you want to read and post messages to the appropriate board.

MSN's bulletin boards can be lonely places. While the service has provided a good number of bulletin board topics, most of them are wasted because of a lack of user participation.

Other MSN Features

Like all other online services, MSN offers file libraries and e-mail capabilities. There are a number of file libraries on the service, provided by both Microsoft and several independent content providers. And it couldn't be easier to download a file. Just open the message attached to each file, click on the applicable icon and the process will begin. If you want to download a file later, place your pointer on the appropriate icon and drag it out of the message and onto your desktop. When you're ready to transfer the file, click on the icon to start the download process.

Microsoft Exchange, the electronic mail service that transfers messages between MSN and the Internet, allows users to read and compose messages either offline or online. The Exchange is extremely easy to use because it is set up more like a word processor than a traditional mail program. While there are some fancy text attributes, they can be used in messages only to other Exchange users.

MSN Pricing and Its Future

Microsoft has been very aggressive in the pricing of its service. As a result, at least one online competitor, CompuServe, has lowered its rates. MSN offers a Standard Monthly Plan that costs $4.95 and includes three hours of connect time per month. Additional hours on the Standard Plan cost $2.50 each. There is also a Frequent Users Monthly Plan that costs $19.95 a month and provides 20 hours of connect time per month. Additional hours cost $2 each.

MSN needs to make the most of its pricing advantage until it has enough content to attract and maintain users. The company has the financial and technological resources to be a leader in the online industry. Knowing all of this and being bombarded by all of the hype, the public expects nothing less from MSN.

At this point, however, The Microsoft Network is at best an excellent Internet service provider. To be a quality online service like America Online or CompuServe, the service must beef up its content and improve the organization of its information. In sum, MSN has a long way to go. OA

MSN Pricing and Contact Information

MSN offers pricing plans for both occasional and frequent online users:

- Standard Monthly Plan: $4.95 per month ($6.95 in Canada) includes three hours of connect time per month . Additional hours are $2.50 each ($3.50 in Canada).
- Frequent Users Monthly Plan: $19.95 per month ($35.00 in Canada) includes 20 hours of connect time per month. Additional hours are $2 each ($2.80 in Canada).

For more information, contact:
The Microsoft Network
Microsoft Corporation
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052-6399
voice: 800-386-5550
e-mail: info@man.com
Web: http://www.man.com

MSN GO Words

Independent content providers offer forums throughout The Microsoft Network's subject categories. The following list catalogs those forums by subject and provides each forum's Go words in italics. Providers listed are subject to change. All information was current as of November 13,1995.

Arts & Entertainment

21st Century Online *Future*
Albion Channel *Albion*
America's Talking *America's Talking*
ArtSpeaks *ArtSpeaks*
Cinescape Interactive *Cinescape*
CNBC's Rivera Live! *Rivera*
Cooking Light Magazine *Cooking Light*
Fangoria *Fangoria*
Guitar Network *GuitarNET*
Hero Interactive *HERO*
Hollywood Online *Hollywood*
Jazz Central Station *Jazz Central Station*
Mr. Showbiz *Showbiz*
NBC SuperNet *NBC*
Nuke+ *Nuke+*
PhotoDisc *PhotoDisc*
Smithsonian Magazine *Smithsonian*
Speaking Tree Online Reviews *treereviews*
Starlog *Starlog*
TeknoComix *Tekno*
TV Host Online *TVHOST*
Virtual Comics *virtualcomics*

Business & Finance

Accounting Office *CPA*
Accounting Today *Accounting Today*
American Business Information *BizInfo*
American Management Association *AMA*
Bonds Online *Bonds*
Business Exchange *BusinessEx*
Career Gate *careergate*
CCH Business Owner's Toolkit *CCH*
Chase Direct On-Line *Chase*
CorpTech High-Tech Directories *CorpTech High-Tech*
Credit Card Management Magazine *Credit Card*
D&T Business Advisor *DTBusiness*
Data Broadcast Corporation *DBC*
Decision Point *DP*
Deloitte & Touche Online Financial Forum *DT*
Disclosure *Disclosure*
Dun & Bradstreet Information Services *D&B*
Entrepreneur Magazine's BizNET *BizNET*
Entrepreneur Magazine's SOHO Mall *SOHO Mall*
ERI Relocation & Pay Forum *ERI*
Faulkner & Gray Business Publishers *FaulknerGray*
Federal Express *FedEx*
Fidelity Online Investor Center *Fidelity*
Financial Emporium *EMPORIUM*
FIREPOWER! *Careers*
Forecast Magazine *forecast*
FreeShop Online *FreeShop*
GemCampus *Gems*
Graham & Dunn Entrepreneur's Legal Direct *GrahamDunn*
Health Data Management Magazine *Health Technology*
Home Office Computing Magazine *hoc*
Hoover's Business Resources *hoovers*
HR OnLINE *hr*
IAC Business Intelligence *IAC*
ICC Business Information *ICCBIF*
INNterREST Hospitality & Travel *ITR*
Insurance Information Exchange *IIX*
INSURECom Insurance Resources *Insurance*
Investor Information Forum *InvestInfo*
Itex Barter Network *Itex*
Jane Attard Business Know-How *Business Know-How*
JobQuest *JobQuest*
Journal of Business Strategy *Business Strategy and Planning*
KeyLink OnLine *Career*
The Law Office *Legal*
Mainstream Resource Center *MainstreamOnline*
The Marketing Store *Greenlight*
Max's Investment World *Max*
Mortgage On-Line *MortgageOnline*
National Mortgage News *Mortgage News*
Pinkerton Risk Assessment Services *PRAS*
The Practical Accountant Magazine *PracticalAccountant*
Profound Business Facts *Profound*
Real Estate Straight *RealEstateInfo*
Relocatable Business *relocatable*
Sales Automation Success *Denali*
Schwab Online *Schwab*
Small Business Administration *SBA*
SUCCESS Online *SUCCESS*
The T.A.P.E. *TAPE*
T.A.P.E. & StatPak Newsletters *getTAPE*
Thomson Market Edge *Edge*
Trade Compass *tradecompass*
TRW Business Information Services *TRWBIS*
United Parcel Service *UPS*
US Banker Magazine *U.S. Banker*
Writing It Right-At Work! *write*
Zycon Global Real Estate Forum *Zycon*

Computers & Software

7th Level *seventh*
Access Softek *access*
Activision *Activision*
Adobe Online *Adobe*
Alcom *Alcom*
atOnce Software *atOnce*
Baarns Publishing *Baarns*
Broderbund Software *Broderbund*
Byron Preiss Multimedia *ByronPreiss*
CGR Interactive *CGR*
Cobb's PC Productivity Center *COBB*
Computer Gaming World *computergamingworld*
Computer Life Online *ComputerLife*
Computer Shopper *ComputerShopper*
Corel *Corel*
Cristal Software *CS*
Dell Computer *Dell*
Diamond Online *DIAMONDONLINE*
FamilyPC *FamilyPC*
HSC Software *HSC*
Humongous Entertainment *humongous*
Inside Microsoft Windows 95 *InsideWin95*
Intellicom Digital Solutions *Intellicom*
Inter@ctive Week *IAWeek*
Intergraph Corporation *Intergraph*
Iomega *Iomega*
Kim Komandos Komputer Klinic *komando*
Lexmark International *Lexmark*
MacroMedia *MacroMedia*
MapInfo *MapInfo*
The Maxis Forum *Maxis*
McAfee *McAfee*
Mediatrends, Inc. *Mediatrends*
Megahertz Corporation *MEGAHERTZ*
METZ Software, Inc. *METZ*
Microcom *Microcom*
Micrografx *MGX*
Monotype *Monotype*
Mustang Software, Inc. *Mustang*
NEC Technologies *NECTECH*
NewMedia *NewMedia*
Newsbytes News Network *Newsbytes*
Novell *Novell*
Now Software Inc. *NowSoft*
Ontrack Computer Systems *Ontrack*
PC Computing *PComputing*
PC Magazine *PCMagazine*
PC Week *PCWeek*
PC World *PCWC*
Pineapplehead Multimedia *cool3d*
Pinnacle Publishing *Pinnacle*
Powersoft *Powersoft*
Ray Dream *ray dream*
Softsource CAD for Windows *cad for windows*
Starfish Software *starfish*
Symantec *symantec*
Toshiba PC Forum *Toshiba*
ViaGrafix Computer Training *ViaGrafix*
VideoLogic *videologic*
Visio *Visio*
Wall Data *WALLDATA*
Western Digital *WDC*
Windows Development Exchange *WINDX*
Windows Sources *WindowsSources*
WinWay *WinWay*
Xircom *Xircom*
ZD Net *zdnet*
Zenith Data Systems *ZDS*
Zenographics *zeno*

Education & Reference

College PowerPrep *PowerPrep*
Encarta Encyclopedia *EncartaForum*
Kaplan Online! *Kaplan*
The Princeton Review *Princeton Review*
Society for Creative Anachronism *SCA*

Health & Fitness

Faulkner & Gray Health Info Center *health data*
Greendale Park Naturopathic Clinic *GPNC*
ICNN Information Center *ICNN Nutrition*

Home & Family

Best Friends AnimalNet *AnimalNet*
Books That Work *BTW*
Children First! *Children*
Diebel's Sportsmens Gallery *Diebel*
Equifax *Go Equifax*
ICNN Food & Beverage Center *ICNN*
KidStar Online *KidStar*
New Home Listings on Demand! *NewHome*
Parent Council TM *PrntCncl*
Silver Horse Vineyards *Silver Horse*
Splash Kids *Splash*
Starwave's Family Planet *FamilyPlanet*
To Help Minds Grow *getsmart*

Interests, Leisure & Hobbies

American Greetings *Cards*
The Astrologers Fund *AFUND*
Collectors Direct Network *collectors*
Crafters Marketplace, Inc. *crafts*
EGM Interactive *EGM*
Encyclopedia Cuisines *cuisines*
Gamewiz, Inc. *Gamewiz*
Gourmet Gift Net *gourmetgift*
Intelligent Gamer Online *igonline*
MotoCentral Motorcycling Forum *moto*
Planet Earth Magazine *WTPE*
Smart Wine InfoMall *Smartwine*
Stamps, Coins, Phone Cards, and Old Cars by AmosPress, Inc. *Collectables Plus*
Swatch World *Swatch*
United Airlines *United Airlines*

News & Weather

Ingenius Online *ingenius*
NBC News *NBC News*
The WeatherLab *theweatherlab*

People & Communities

Planet Out *PNO*
SeniorNet *SeniorNet*
Women's Wire *wwire*

Public Affairs

The American Spectator *Spectator*
GoverNet *GoverNet*
ICNN Health Misinformation Watch *Health Misinformation Watch*
Inferno-International Fire Service Network *INFERNO*
NET Political NewsTalk Network *Nettown*
The New Republic Magazine *TNR*
Non-Line—The Non-Profit Network *Nonline*
PolicyStreet *POLICY*
Self-Help/Mind Garden *selfhelp*

Science & Technology

Earthwatch *earthwatch*
GNET—Global Network for Environment and Technology *GNET*

Sports & Recreation

Cruising World *cruising*
DBC Sports *DBC_Sports*
ESPNET SportsZone *SportsZone*
Fantasy Sports, Inc. *Fantasy Sports*
The Gold Sheet Sports Network *goldsheet*
Golf Digest *Golf Digest Magazine*
Martial Arts Network *man*
Online Sports Games, Etc. *sportsgames*
Sailing World *sail race*
Scuba! On-Line Interactive Magazine *Scuba! On-Line*
Snow Country Magazine *snowcountry*
Tennis Magazine *Tennis Mag*

http://filepile.com

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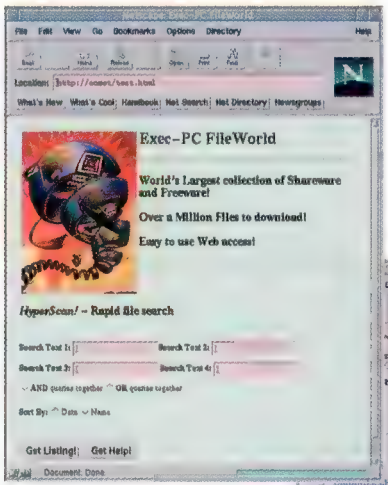
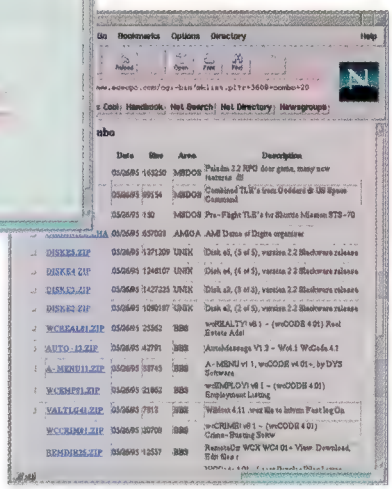

Exec-PC FileWorld
World's Largest collection of Shareware and Freeware!
Over a Million Files to download!
Easy to use Web access!
HyperScan! - Rapid file search
Get Listing!
Get Help!



Full access to the World File Project is available for an incredibly low registration fee. But even on your first call, you can browse all you want and take files from our extensive FREE collections.

So stop searching everywhere for software on the Internet. If it's out there, it's right here on the World File Project. And it can be on its way to you in an instant, direct from the Web.

World File Project Web Site
http://filepile.com
For more information
Call 1-800-EXEC-PC-1 or email us at *info@ execpc.com.*

EXEC-PC

EXEC-PC Incorporated 2105 S. 170th Street, New Berlin, WI 53151

Illustration: Hanki Ozma

GETTING YOUR HIGH-SPEED MODEM UP TO SPEED

Put your high-speed modem to work with these helpful hints.

By Lenny Bailes

Getting the most out of your 28,800 bps modem isn't necessarily an easy task. You might think that you can hook it up, boot up your system and be on your way. Unfortunately, this is not always the case, even with a modem manual in hand.

After you set up your modem, you may be frustrated by connection failures or error-ridden file transfers. Your software may even refuse to dial the telephone numbers of your favorite online services. Take a deep breath, relax and read on: ONLINE ACCESS has some advice about how to get your new modem running and up to speed.

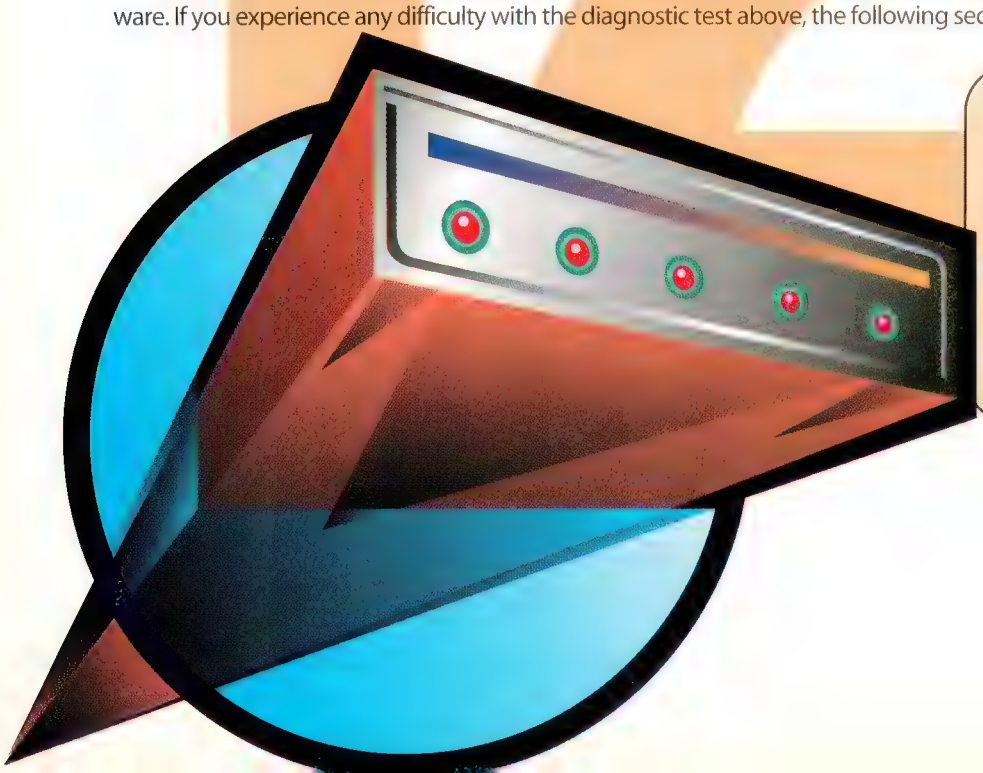
Setting Up

The Diagnostic Test

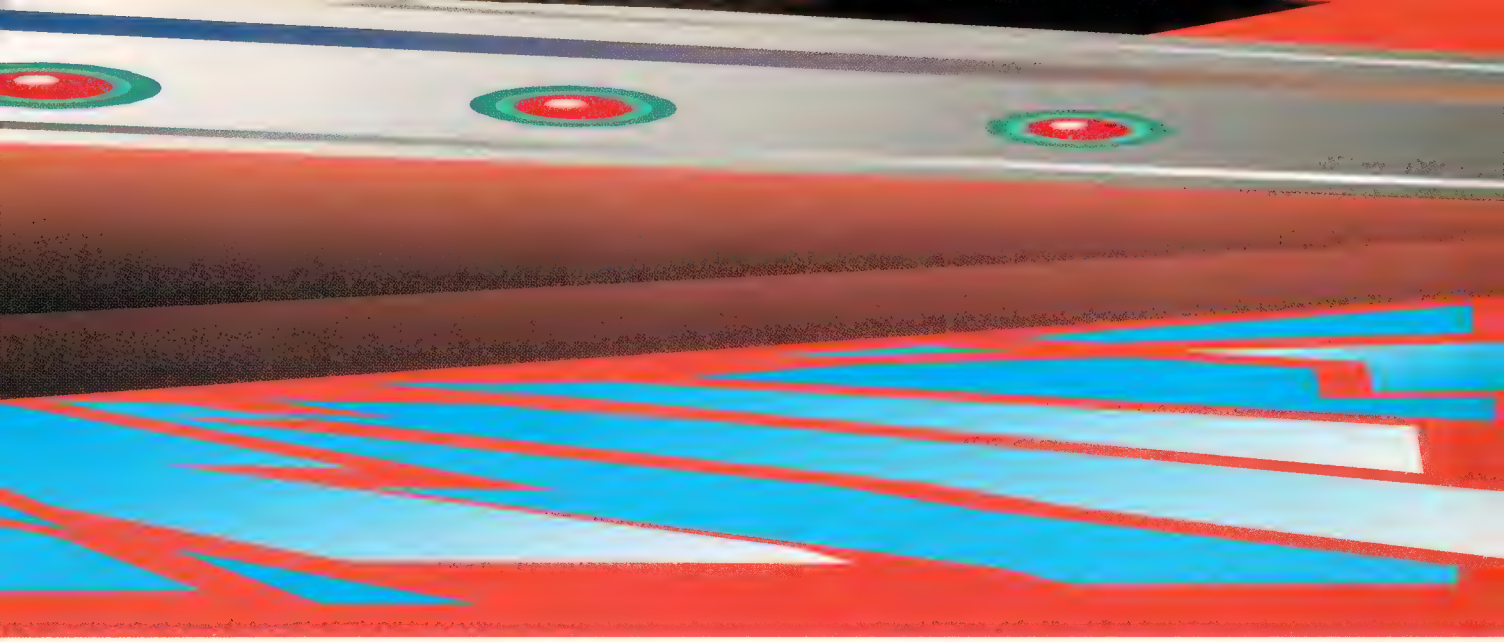
When installing your new modem, refer to its instruction manual for guidance. Then run the following simple diagnostic test to determine if you've made all of the proper connections:

1. Open your telecommunications program to a terminal screen. Some programs like Procomm Plus automatically open to a terminal screen; others open to a dialing directory. If you have the latter type of program, you should be able to find the terminal screen option on a pull-down menu.
2. Type **at** into the terminal screen and hit enter. The modem should return an OK prompt.
3. Type **atdt** into the terminal screen and hit enter. If you have a pulse dialing telephone system, type **atdp** instead. You should hear a brief dial tone. If you don't, try turning up the volume on your modem's speaker.

If you see an OK prompt and hear a dial tone, your modem is correctly installed, and it is communicating with your software. If you experience any difficulty with the diagnostic test above, the following section should help you get on track.



Note:
*If you type **atdt** or **atdp** and don't get a dial tone, check to make sure that the cable from your telephone jack is properly plugged into the modem. If you have a switchboard device attached to a line, try removing it and connecting the telephone cable directly to the wall socket.*



Solving Communication and Hardware Problems

If you don't get an OK prompt during the diagnostic test and you have an external modem, consult your modem's installation manual and make sure that your modem cables are connected properly to your serial port. If the modem cables are properly connected, then the problem might be that your communication software is set to the wrong serial port. (See box, Where Are Your Serial Ports?) Here's what to do:

- Find your communication software's serial port options. If the program is set to use COM 1 (the first serial port), change the setting to COM 2 (the second serial port) or vice versa.
- If you are using an external modem and there are more than two serial ports on your system, try connecting the modem to COM 1or COM 2 rather than COM 3 or COM 4 (the third and fourth serial ports).
- For an internal modem or PCMCIA card on a notebook computer, your modem's configuration program or Card Manager should assign the appropriate serial port to the modem.
- If your system has two external serial ports and you're using an internal modem or PCMCIA card, set your serial port to COM 3. If this doesn't work, try using COM 1 or COM 2.

Another problem sometimes occurs when your modem dials after the OK prompt but simply hangs up when another modem answers. If your modem is not establishing a connection, the problem might be that your communication software's Baud Autodetect option is active. The Baud Autodetect option in some communication packages was intended for users with older 2400 bps modems. This feature is no longer necessary for newer modems and is now incorporated into the hardware. In Procomm Plus for Windows 2.0, the Baud Autodetect option can be disabled by going to the Setup menu. Select Extended Menu, then Data Modem/Connection and, finally, Connect Messages to locate the check box. In Procomm Plus for DOS, type **ALT-S** for Settings and choose General Modem Options.

After making one or all of these adjustments, your modem should now be properly connected and ready to communicate with your software.

Where Are Your Serial Ports?

Here are some tips for locating the serial port settings on various communications software packages:

- *In Procomm Plus for Windows 2.0, go to the Setup menu. Choose Extended Menu and then select Data Modem/Connection and Connection Setup.*
- *For TERMINAL.EXE, supplied with Windows 3.1, the serial port adjustment option is located in the Settings menu under the Communications option.*
- *For Win95-specific applications in Windows 95, the serial port used is assigned automatically during setup when your modem is detected. (To find out which serial port has been selected, go to the Control Panel. Click on the Modems icon, highlight the modem being used and click on the Properties button.)*
- *In Delrina Wincom Pro 1.1, go to the Setup menu and select Settings.*

Connections & Transfers

Establishing High-Speed Connections

Now that your modem is properly installed, you'll want to make sure that it can connect to other high-speed modems at the highest rate possible. After all, you don't want your 28,800 bps modem connecting at 2400 bps to a service that you know supports four to 10 times that speed. (Your modem's internal and external connection speeds should be displayed on your terminal screen immediately after a connection is established. If they are not, refer to your modem's user manual to locate the correct command string to activate this feature.)

If your modem isn't up to speed, you may need to adjust the connect settings located in the Dialing Directory or Service menus in your telecommunications package. (See box, Adjusting Your Connect Settings.) To get the best results, you should set the connect rate settings as high as your serial port permits. For systems with an older set of serial ports, adjust the connect settings to 19,200 bps. Many Intel-based PCs, Macintoshes and I/O boards manufactured before 1994 include serial ports that are reliable only at connection speeds below 19,200 bps. If your computer has newer, high-speed serial ports, adjust the setting to 57,600 bps or to 115,200 bps for higher-speed connections. (To determine whether your system has high-speed or low-speed serial ports, see the Avoiding Transmission Errors section.)

If after adjusting the connect rate settings, you still have difficulty establishing a connect rate higher than 2,400 bps (or the other modem keeps hanging up), your problem could be due to one of the following situations:

- Your communications program should be configured for hardware flow control and disabled for software flow control. (Hardware and software flow control regulates the flow of data between two communicating modems.) You can adjust these setup options within your terminal program's communication settings.

- You may want to disable the Compression Protocol feature because it might not be able to connect to older v.32 and v.42 modems that aren't configured to recognize data compression. Consult your modem's user manual to determine the exact command for turning compression on and off. **Example**: The proper command to disable compression for U.S. Robotics modems is **ATS34=1.**

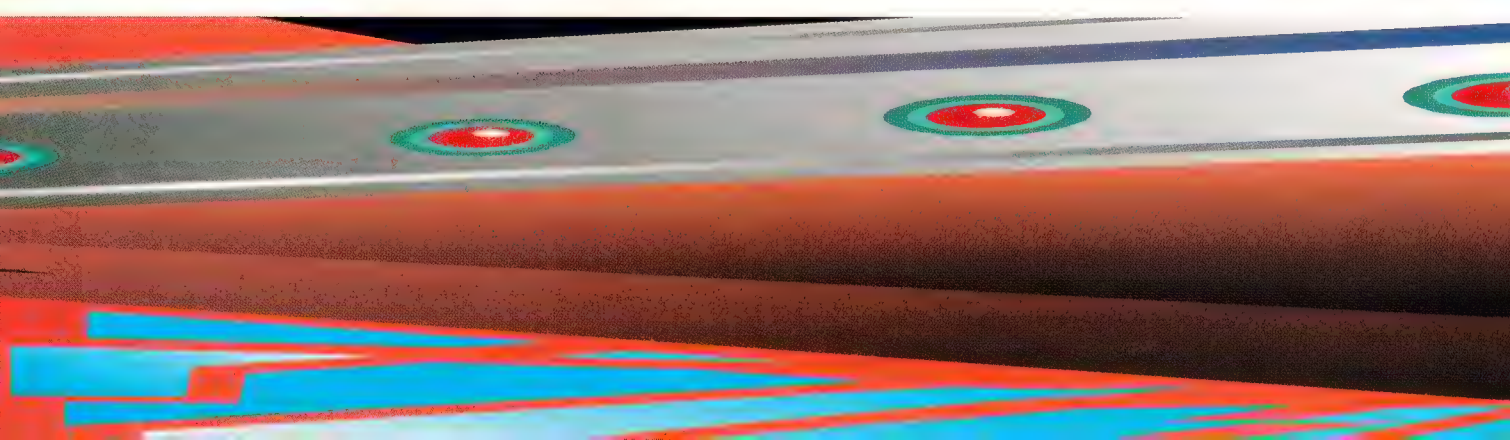
Adjusting Your Connect Settings

Here's how to adjust the connect settings located in the Dialing Directory or Service menu of your communications software:

- *For both Procomm Plus for DOS and Procomm Plus for Windows, the command **Alt-D** will bring you directly to the Dialing Directory.*

- *For Windows 3.1, the settings are determined by individual communications programs.*

- *In Windows 95, for Win95-specific applications, click on the Modems icon, highlight the modem being used and click on the Properties button.*



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Avoiding Transmission Errors

Are you plagued by various, long-winded error messages when you try to upload or download files? If your terminal screen frequently displays messages like "Bad Data Packet," "Data Overrun" or "Got ZRPOS," your modem may be attempting to send or receive data at a rate faster than its serial port can handle. (These errors are particularly common in multitasking environments like Windows or OS/2.) The problem might be that your high-speed modem is connected to an older, low-speed serial port.

To determine if you have low-speed serial ports, run the Microsoft Diagnostics program (MSD). To do this, close Windows and go to the C:\ prompt. Type **MSD** and click on C for Com Ports. If the line labeled UART Chip Used reads 16550AF, then you have a high-speed serial port capable of sending and receiving data at 57,600 bps to 115,200 bps. If you don't have a high-speed serial port on your system and you are getting file transmission errors, then you should drop the default connection speed in your communications package back to 19,200 bps or consider upgrading your computer.

If you're using Windows 3.1 or Windows for Workgroups, you may need to take an additional step to fix data overrun and file transmission problems. The communication driver supplied with Windows 3.1 can be the source of many file transmission headaches because Windows simply was not designed for high-speed telecommunication.

Users of Windows 95 will be relieved to learn that the operating system itself includes support for high-speed serial ports. You can regulate the settings of the UART chip under Windows 95 by opening Systems Properties and clicking on Device Manager. Next, click on the Properties button and select Port Settings from the Connections tab to make your adjustments.

Loyal Windows 3.1 or Windows for Workgroups users should consider looking into a driver-replacement package called TurboCommander that contains high-speed Windows communication drivers. Marketed by a company called Pacific CommWare, TurboCommander adds Windows support not only for the 16550 UART but also for high-speed I/O boards that process data at speeds higher than 115,200 bps. It lets you fine-tune port and driver settings from preconfigured dialog boxes and pull-down menus. You may also want to try downloading a freeware communications driver distributed by Delrina, maker of the popular Winfax/WinCom communications suite. Look for this freeware in WFXCOM.ZIP on your local bulletin board or in CompuServe's Delrina forum (go **delrina**).

Achieving Fast File Transfer Rates

Sometimes you may connect to a service at a rate of 14,400 bps or higher and still be disappointed by slow data transfer. When uploading or downloading files, your 28,800 bps modem is capable of transferring up to 3,250 characters or bytes per second. (Many communication programs include a built-in status window that reports these file transfer speeds.)

If your data transfer rates aren't up to par, it may be that your modem's built-in compression protocols aren't activated. Some communication programs include a check box option to turn the compression feature on and off. (Windows 95 includes this option internally for Win95-specific communication packages. In Windows 3.1, the option's availability depends on the telecommunications program used.) If your program doesn't include this option, refer to your user manual for a specific command that you can enter from a terminal screen. **Example:** The proper Hayes command for U.S. Robotics modems is usually **AT&K1, &K2** or **&K3.**

Don't let telecommunication hangnails slow you down! If you follow the advice above, your new modem should be properly installed and running up to speed. OA

CREDITCARD
VISA

Illustration: Tim Barnard

CRACKS IN THE SAFE

Should You Shop on the Web?

By Heath Row

While scanning the World Wide Web, you discover a store selling a product you'd like to buy. So you fill out an order form with your name, the item you want, your credit card information and your address. But as you drag your mouse over to click on the Send button, you hesitate. Will the information get to the store untouched, or will it be intercepted?

While reports of online credit card fraud are rare, occasional incidents receive widespread media coverage. For instance, in February 1995, Kevin

Mitnick was arrested on charges of stealing thousands of data files and at least 20,000 credit card numbers from Apple Computer, Motorola, The WELL, Netcom and Colorado SuperNet. In September 1995, two graduate students at the University of California at Berkeley discovered in less than a minute how Netscape Navigator's 30-bit security keys are created. Netscape's encryption system had actually been cracked a month earlier by a student in France, but not as quickly. Before the incident, Netscape Communications Corporation's Navigator browser, which boasts approximately 8 million users, had emerged as the Web security standard because of its popularity.

As more and more businesses go online, especially on the Web, there are increasing opportunities for users to shop for products online. According to Karen Burka, a co-analyst at SIMBA Information in Wilton, Connecticut, vendors who set up shop on the Internet and consumer online services earned almost $130 million in revenue in 1994. SIMBA predicts that by 2000, online sales could increase to almost $740 million on consumer online services and approximately $950 million on the Net. Many of these sales are completed offline, with buyers giving their credit card numbers over the phone or mailing personal checks. Other sales transactions are completed online, with credit card data transmitted electronically.

Most transactions on the online services and bulletin board systems are relatively safe because the services are enclosed, proprietary systems, says David Medine, associate director for credit practices at the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) Bureau of Consumer Protection. But consumers should be wary of security claims made by Web browser manufacturers and vendors on the Net because the Net is a more open and unmonitored environment, he says.

"You are probably safer communicating to one of the online services," Medine says. "On the Net, you have to be sure you're in a secure environment."

Protecting the Virtual Purse

Why the concern about security? Because the Net is an open system, information can be routed, tracked and intercepted on its way to a destination. If the data is not encrypted or translated into code, it can be read by anyone who finds it.

Browser/Service	Encryption Supported
Netscape	SSL
Secure NCSA Mosaic	S-HTTP
CompuServe	S-HTTP planned
AOL/GNN	S-HTTP planned/SSL
Prodigy	SSL planned

Besides account-based payment plans like First Virtual, CyberCash and DigiCash, where no credit card information is required online, several companies have developed security tools to ensure that credit card data transmitted over the Web remains secure and known only to buyers and sellers. Events this past year, such as the Berkeley crack, have raised concerns about the safety of Netscape's Web browser and online credit transactions.

"There is no formal credit card security on the Internet," says Ed Hogan, senior vice president of MasterCard. "The security on the Internet ranges from nonexistent to pretty good."

Deciding whether to use credit cards on the Net becomes increasingly difficult because of the different encryption options that are available. While consumers can use encrypted browsers, transactions will be secure only if a site's server supports the browser's encryption. This can be tricky because it's not always clear which company is working with which product online.

Some companies that market secure browsers, such as Terisa Systems and Open Market, say that a unified, interoperable system that supports all kinds of encryption will make online transactions more secure.

Terisa planned to release its SecureWeb toolkit that supports S-HTTP (Secure Hypertext Transfer Protocol) and SSL (Secure Sockets Layer), the two major forms of encryption, by the end of 1995, but Open Market beat them to the punch with the September release of its Secure WebServer software, which supports S-HTTP- and SSL-based Web browsers.

Patrick McGill, Terisa's vice president of sales and marketing, says that flexibility and an interoperable standard are necessary to avoid a situation similar to the VHS/Betamax war in the VCR industry. "[With SSL and S-HTTP], you've got two approaches that are complementary rather than competitive," he says.

The problem doesn't lie with the individual security systems but with the variety, Hogan says. To secure a transaction with Netscape Navigator, for example, both buyers and sellers have to use SSL encryption. If a buyer's browser and a vendor's Web server don't use the same encryption, transactions aren't secure. "Even where [security] is quite good, there's no interoperable standard," Hogan says.

Here is a brief rundown of which security standards are supported by the major players, including the online services and manufacturers of various Web browsers and servers.

Online Services

America Online will offer S-HTTP-based encryption. AOL's new Global Network Navigator supports SSL.

CompuServe does not currently offer secure Web transactions. However, a spokesperson says that the service plans to use S-HTTP or whatever encryption standard the industry supports. Using S-HTTP will protect transactions on Terisa- and Open Market-based sites.

Prodigy does not currently offer secure Web transactions either. The service plans to offer SSL encryption in the near future, however.

Web Browsers

Netscape Navigator uses SSL encryption. Transactions are secure when users shop on Netscape-, Terisa- and Open Market-based servers.

Secure NCSA Mosaic, from Spry and Spyglass, supports S-HTTP. Transactions are encrypted when users browse on Internet Office Web-, SafetyWEB-, Terisa- and Open Market-based servers.

Servers

Terisa, a partnership of EIT, RSA Data Security, Netscape and several online services, offers a SecureWeb toolkit that supports RSA's SSL encryption and EIT's S-HTTP encryption.

Open Market's Secure WebServer software offers secure transactions to users of SSL and S-HTTP encryption.

Setting the Standard

Who will set the standard? One thing is certain: Consumers shouldn't expect much help from the government. Medine says that while the FTC is looking at various Web browsers and servers that offer transaction security, the commission is not going to determine which security system is best.

Who provides the security standard doesn't really matter as long as secure transactions are ensured, Medine says. "If [companies] claim that they're secure, then they better be secure," he says.

In June, MasterCard International and Visa International said that they were getting together to pen specifications software that would support secure credit transactions. In September, however, Visa backed out of the deal and teamed up with Microsoft Corporation to create a different kind of secure transaction software with Spyglass. In turn, MasterCard joined IBM and Netscape to write its own specifications. It is currently not clear which software program will emerge as the industry standard.

Shopper's Alert

Some online vendors say that security isn't as much of an issue as some claim. Robert Olson, president of Virtual Vineyards, which sells wine over the Web at **http://www.virtualvin.com**, says that the company has offered Netscape's SSL and CyberCash since the Web site went up in February 1995. Most of the firm's transactions, however, are unsecured and unencrypted, he says.

"[Security] is not a critical issue," Olson notes. In fact, Olson claims that online credit transactions are safer than using credit cards in stores offline. In offline transactions, he says, credit card users leave a trail of receipts and bills with credit card numbers on them, and a lot of fraud is perpetrated by unethical merchants and corrupt employees at credit card processing centers.

"The technology for the Web provides an opportunity to kill off that kind of crime because it's possible to have more security online than offline," Olson says.

The federal government offers consumers the same protection for online fraudulent credit transactions as it does for offline, with a maximum personal liability of $50. If you think your credit card has been misused, either offline or online, notify your credit card issuer immediately so that you will not be held responsible.

If you have weighed the risks and choose to use your credit card online, here are some safety tips to keep in mind:

1) Use a secure Web browser or other form of encryption. Then make sure that your browser and the vendor's server are compatible. If you're not sure whether they are compatible, call or e-mail the vendor and ask. If you're still unsure, order by phone or by regular mail.

2) Do business with firms that you know and trust and frequent only those sites with good track records. If something seems shady, don't hit the Send button.

3) Inquire whether an online merchant offers alternative payment plans, such as ordering by phone.

4) Request an order confirmation by phone or by e-mail.

MasterCard's Hogan is confident that online security will fall into place once things get rolling. "I'm worried about getting started right. The kinds of problems and attacks that happen on the Net are the things we know nothing about," Hogan says. "We just have to be brave. We don't put in bulletproof systems; we put in systems that afford utility." OA

Sites on Security

For more information on Web security, basic cryptography issues and credit industry standards, check out these sites:

The Cypherpunks Home Page
http://ftp.csua.berkeley.edu/cypherpunks/Home.html

MasterCard
http://www.mastercard.com

Netscape
http://home.netscape.com

Open Market
http://www.openmarket.com

Secure NCSA Mosaic
http://www.commerce.net/software/SMosaic

Visa
http://www.visa.com

Terisa
http://www.terisa.com

Online and Unplugged

Wireless technology enables laptop users to go online from anywhere.

By Joe Rudich

Is your portable computer not portable enough? Most laptop users must still depend on stationary phone lines, which means that they can only go online when they are near a phone jack. However, wireless technology has rapidly improved over the past few years, making wireless modems an option for people who want to be able to go online from absolutely any location.

Laptop users interested in going wireless have a lot of choices when selecting modems, communications software and wireless service. By understanding the technology and products available, you can make an informed decision about what type of wireless modem and service is right for you.

Wireless Basics

There are currently two basic technologies available for wireless access to online resources: packet radio and cellular data communication. While the technologies have different communications capabilities, each requires users to have a special modem and a service provider.

In order to use packet radio technology, which is designed primarily for sending and receiving e-mail, users need a portable computer with a packet radio modem, an account with a packet radio e-mail service and special radio communications software, which is often furnished by the e-mail service.

With the same standard communications software that wired modems use, cellular technology users can access online services and the Internet with a portable computer equipped with a cellular modem, standard online communications software and a portable telephone registered with a cellular service provider. To go online, cellular modems get hooked up to a data input jack found on most cellular telephones.

Equipping a portable computer for wireless communication can be expensive—from $300 to $1,000, plus monthly access fees. Also, it's important to note that online connectivity is slower and less reliable with wireless modems.

Packet Radio

Packet radio networks are the original pioneers of wireless communication, and have only recently been challenged by cellular service providers. Specifically designed for e-mail, packet radio cannot be used to access the commercial online services, bulletin board systems, interactive Internet services or the Web.

Packet radio modems are considerably more expensive than their wired counterparts, costing anywhere from $400 to $600. They are also slower than wired modems, operating at 14.4 Kbps or less.

Packet radio modems are generally designed to work on one of two networks: Advanced Radio Data Information Service (ARDIS) or RAM Mobile Data. Unless you buy your modem through a reseller, you will need to contact one of these companies to register your modem after you buy it.(See sidebar on p. 56 for contact information.)

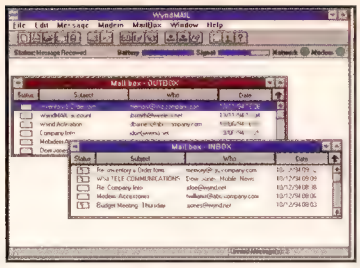
Although these two networks provide the wireless infrastructure needed to send e-mail, users must also open an account with an e-mail service to get the software required to actually send e-mail messages over the system.

Here are three widely used packet radio e-mail services:

RadioMail offers users versatile e-mail service, news and stock updates.

***RadioMail** is the leading packet radio e-mail service in America, providing service over both the RAM Mobile Data and ARDIS networks. A monthly subscription fee of $39 covers up to 100,000 characters worth of messages. For additional fees, users can also send faxes and receive automated updates from RadioMail's news and stock quote service. For more information about RadioMail, call the company at 415-286-7800, voice, or visit its Web site at **http://www.radiomail.net**.

***WyndMail** is more expensive than RadioMail, costing $49 a month for the first 50,000 characters. However, this service offers users the additional benefit of being able to access e-mail from both dial-up and wireless modems. WyndMail provides e-mail services exclusively for the RAM Mobile Data network. To reach WyndMail, call 800-549-6000, voice, or visit its Web site at **http://www. wynd.net/wynd**.



WyndMail is useful for checking e-mail from both wireless and standard modems.

***ZAP-it**, launched in July 1995 by Data Transmission Services (DTS), may be the most economical service for those who plan to send wireless e-mail on an irregular basis. Another RAM Mobile Data e-mail provider, ZAP-it targets occasional users by pricing its basic monthly service at only $9.95. However, the service charges 39 cents for each message up to 1,000 characters in length. You can get information about ZAP-it by contacting DTS Wireless at 800-967-0943, voice.

Cellular Data Communication

If you have a portable, cellular telephone with a data input jack, the easiest way to go online is to connect your laptop PC to the jack. If your cellular phone doesn't have a data input jack, you'll have to use a special connection kit in order to hook up your modem to the phone. Because there are various cellular phone models with different data input jacks,

Current CDPD Availability

CDPD, the newest, most reliable form of cellular modem technology, is still being developed. This table shows where in the United States CDPD is currently being offered or tested by cellular service companies.

City/State	Cellular Service	Extent of Coverage
Atlanta, GA	GTE	Testing
Baltimore, MD	Bell Atlantic	Full
Charlotte, NC	Bell Atlantic	Full
Chicago, IL	Ameritech	Full
Cincinnati, OH	Ameritech	Testing
Dallas, TX	McCaw	Limited
Detroit, MI	Ameritech	Limited
Gary, IN	Ameritech	Full
Farmington, NM	Sprint	Limited
Hartford, CT	Bell Atlantic	Full
Houston, TX	GTE	Full
Las Vegas, NV	McCaw	Limited
Miami, FL	McCaw	Full
New York, NY	McCaw, NYNEX	Limited
Philadelphia, PA	Bell Atlantic, Comcast	Full
Phoenix, AZ	Bell Atlantic	Full
Pittsburgh, PA	Bell Atlantic, McCaw	Full
Salt Lake City, UT	McCaw	Limited
San Diego, CA	GTE	Testing
San Francisco, CA	GTE	Full
San Jose, CA	GTE	Full
Seattle, WA	McCaw	Limited
Tampa, FL	GTE	Full
Washington, DC	Bell Atlantic	Full

connecting a modem to a portable phone can be a challenging process. The ideal way to hook up these two devices is to purchase them both from the same retailer, so you can ensure that the two units are compatible.

Cellular modems are sometimes also called PCMCIA modems. These modems are credit card-sized devices that fit into PCMCIA slots on portable PCs. Although they are more expensive than standard wired modems ($200-$400), cellular modems are roughly half the price of packet radio modems, and can be used to dial up any online service, BBS or Internet service provider that is accessible with a wired modem. Here are two of the many cellular modem models currently on the market:

*Megahertz's 28.8 Kbps PCMCIA fax modem features a handy, retractable connection jack.

***Megahertz's 28.8 Kbps PCMCIA fax modem** is one of the most rugged cellular modems available. The unit features a cleverly designed retractable port for plugging in a standard phone line. The modem retails for $349 and is compatible with computers that have a PCMCIA Type II or Type III slot. Cellular connection cables are sold separately, at $39.95 each for Motorola phones and $79.95 each for Nokia phones. For more information about Megahertz wireless modems, call 800-527-8677, voice, or visit the company's Web site at **http://www.megahertz.com**.

***Compaq's Speedpaq 192 fax modem** is a robust, reliable unit. The Speedpaq 192 retails for $279, has a speed of 19.2 Kbps, and is compatible with computers that have a PCMCIA Type II slot. For more information, call Compaq at 800-345-1518, voice, or visit the company's Web site at **http://www.compaq.com**.

The SpeedPaq 192 fax modem makes wireless computing convenient and easy.

Improving Cellular Modemming Through CDPD

The technology used for cellular voice communication, circuit-switched cellular technology, is currently the most flexible form of wireless data communications available.

However, the techology has its limitations. For instance, the cellular service gets lost when calls are switched between frequency cells, which are cellular transmitting devices. This loss of service can even occur when a user is stationary.

To solve this problem, the cellular industry has developed a data communications service, called Cellular Digital Packet Data (CDPD), which utilizes idle cellular voice channels. Based on a protocol derived from TCP/IP, CDPD easily supports Internet applications and is even more effective than packet radio networks. Unfortunately, CDPD has been slow to develop. As a result, there are very few modems currently on the market that are equipped with this technology.

Cellular Versus Packet Radio

Though packet radio systems are reliable wireless e-mail tools, a standard cellular modem is currently the most effective means of gaining full access to the Internet and online resources without plugging into a stationary phone jack.

If you can afford a cellular modem and don't mind giving up a little speed and reliability, a cellular modem is the way to go. And if consumer demand for wireless connectivity continues to push development and lower prices, it will be only a matter of time before all laptop users will be able to surf the Net from everywhere. OA

Supplier Information

For more information about going wireless, contact these modem companies and service providers.

Advanced Radio Data Information Service (ARDIS)
300 Knightsbridge Pkwy.
Lincolnshire, IL 60069
voice: 800-662-5328, voice

Compaq Computer Corporation
P.O. Box 692000
Houston, TX 77269-2000
voice: 800-345-1518

DTS Wireless (ZAP-it)
10 Woodbridge Center Dr., Ste. 1050
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
voice: 800-967-0943
e-mail: info@dts.net

Megahertz Corporation
605 N. 5600 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84116
voice: 800-527-8677

RadioMail
2600 Campus Dr., Ste. 175
San Mateo, CA 94403
voice: 415-286-7800
e-mail: info@radiomail.net

RAM Mobile Data
10 Woodbridge Center Dr.
Woodbridge, NJ 07095
voice: 908-602-5500

WyndMail
4251 S. Higuera St., Bldg. 800
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
voice: 800-549-6000
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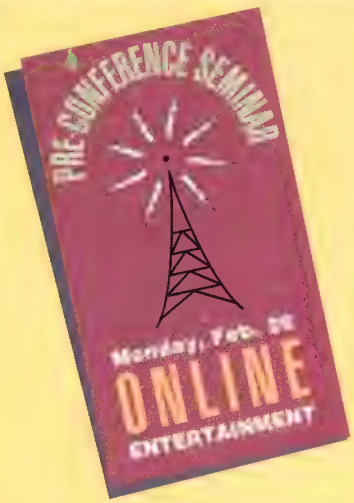
America Online Services Co.
Apple eWorld
Atlantic Monthly
AT&T Consumer Interactive
BusinessWeek
Catapult Entertainment, Inc.
Cablevision Systems
Chicago Online
CNBC/America's Talking
CompuServe, Inc.
Court TV
CMP/*NetGuide Magazine*
CNBC/America's Talking
Columbia/TriStar Television
Delphi Internet Services Corp.
Digital Ink Co
Echo Communications Corp.
eShop Inc.
ESPN Enterprises
General Instrument Corp.
GEnie Services
HSN Interactive Inc.
HotWired
Hollywood Online
Ingram Micro Inc.
Interactive Age
Interchange Online Network
Interactive Catalog Corp.
IVI Publishing
Macromedia
Metromail
Metatec/*Nautilus*
Medio Multimedia Inc.
Microsoft
Microsoft Network
Multimedia Co., Inc.
New York Times Company
Newsweek Interactive
Network
Netscape Communications
On Ramp
Prodigy Services Co.
Realtime Sports
Reality Online
Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising
SimuTronics
SkyConnect, Inc.
Sony New Technologies
Spyglass, Inc.
Teleshuttle Corporation
Time Inc.
The ImagiNation Network
The Portal Information
The Well
TIME Magazine
USA Today Information Network
Viacom Online Services
Voyager
Zenith



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Remote Access Software

By Robert Schmidt

Take your PC on the road with these software programs.

Anyone on-the-go knows about the headaches of long-distance computing. While you're traveling, you may need to retrieve the latest numbers or charts for a presentation, upload field reports to a central database or simply update a file.

What's a road warrior to do? Fortunately, many PCs are already equipped for basic remote communications, such as dialing up another computer and transferring files via a modem. But if you are a nonnetworked PC user who needs more sophisticated computing capabilities than that—like being able to control another computer from a distant location—you may be in the market for specialized remote access software.

How do you know which type of software to buy? Read on to find out what we learned about basic and full-featured remote access software.

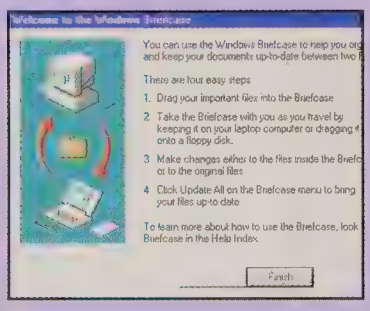
What Is Remote Access?

Remote access is the connection of a host computer to a remote one via modem, cable or wireless connection. In our review, we focus on remote access via modem, since that is

Windows 95
Microsoft Corporation
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052
Voice: 800-426-9400
Voice: 206-882-8080
Suggested Retail Price: $109 (upgrade)

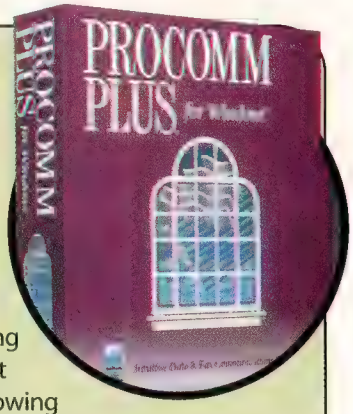
Microsoft's Windows 95 has a built-in communications software program called HyperTerminal. With HyperTerminal, you can send a file to a remote computer or receive a file sent by someone else. Windows 95 also has an application called Briefcase, which has a drag-and-drop feature that makes matching file changes with a remote computer's master files easy. The program does not provide chat or remote-control features.

While most of Windows 95's remote capabilities are designed to work on a network system or LAN, you can purchase the Microsoft Plus software with the Remote Access Server utility. This utility sets up a mini-network between two computers, enabling PC users to share software, directories and printers with other users from remote computers.

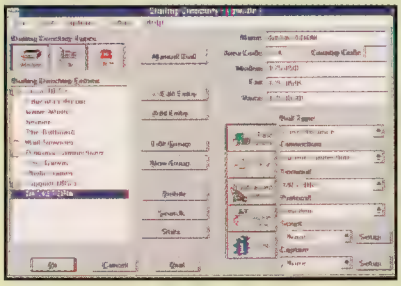

Welcome to the Windows Briefcase
You can use the Windows Briefcase to help you org
and keep your documents up-to-date between two
There are four easy steps
1. Drag your important files into the Briefcase
2. Take the Briefcase with you as you travel by
keeping it on your laptop computer or dragging
onto a floppy disk.
3. Make changes either to the files inside the Briefc
or to the original files
4. Click Update All on the Briefcase menu to bring
your files up to date
To learn more about how to use the Briefcase, look
Briefcase in the Help Index.
Finish

The Briefcase application makes file changes with a remote computer easy.

ProComm Plus for Windows 2.11
Datastorm Technologies, Inc.
P.O. Box 1471
Columbia, MO 65205
Voice: 800-315-3282
Voice: 314-443-3282
Suggested Retail Price: $179



ProComm is the best-selling PC communications package. It excels at basic file transfers, allowing users to send files to multiple locations. With ProComm, you can configure a remote PC to run like a simple BBS—allowing several users to upload files to a designated directory on a remote PC—or browse and download files from another computer.



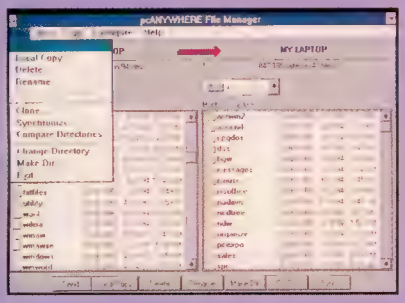
Calling a remote location is easy with ProComm's Dialing Directory.

Although the software features chat, it does not support full remote-control. However, ProComm's WinLink utility allows users to look at a remote computer's directories and rename, copy or delete files.

pcAnywhere for Windows 2.0
Symantec Corporation
10201 Torre Ave.
Cupertino, CA 95014
Voice: 800-441-7234
Voice: 408-253-9600
Suggested Retail Price: $199

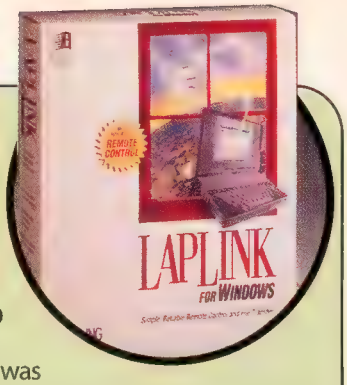
With a touch of the Be a Host PC or Call a Host PC buttons, Symantec's pcAnywhere makes two-way connecting easy. Once you're online, the Remote Online Menu gives you instant access to file transfer, remote control and chat.

pcAnywhere features many security options and a script language, which automates some of the more repetitive tasks like getting e-mail, dialing frequently used modem numbers and entering passwords. The software also provides basic communications features that allow users to connect to various online services. (Note: According to Symantec, pcAnywhere's Windows 95 version is faster than its 2.0 version.)



Side-by-side directories make pcAnywhere's file operations a snap.

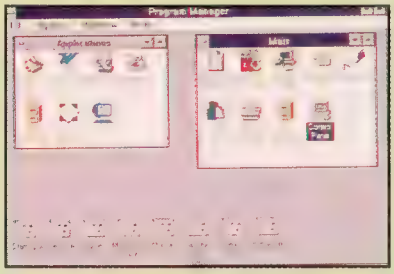
LapLink® for Windows 6.0
Traveling Software, Inc.
18702 North Creek Pkwy.
Bothell, WA 98011
Voice: 800-343-8080
Voice: 206-483-8088
Suggested Retail Price: $199



Originally, LapLink's forte was linking laptops to desktops. However, the program has been recently redesigned to connect PCs to other PCs via modem, serial or parallel cable and wireless communications. Users can also connect to more than one computer at a time for simultaneous file transfer, remote control and chat.

One of LapLink's greatest strengths is its ability to transmit files. With the touch of a button, you can easily move and copy files. There are also special options for selecting and protecting files.

Two additional file transfer features on LapLink are SpeedSync™, which transfers only the changes made to a file rather than the entire file itself, and SmartXchange™, which detects new or revised files on your remote computer and synchronizes or matches them with the same files on another PC (or vice versa). The software also provides a scaling feature that fits an entire screen of a remote PC on your screen display, eliminating the need for scrolling.



With LapLink, you can connect PCs running Windows 95 and Windows 3.1.

the most popular form of connection. We evaluated the following three primary features:

• File transfer. The simplest remote access function is sending files back and forth between two computers and synchronizing them. Also known as matching files, synchronizing involves accessing and working on files from a remote location.

• Remote control. This feature enables you to run a remote PC's applications and manage its files from your computer. You can click on a PC's menus and edit its files as if you were sitting in front of it. With remote-control capabilities, you don't have to copy licensed programs or download huge databases from another computer in order to use them on your computer. For example, you can run a powerhouse software program like Windows 95 remotely, even if your PC doesn't meet hard disk or memory requirements.

• Chat. Some remote access programs offer chat, a communications feature that lets PC users exchange live text messages with one another.

Software for Your Needs

The remote access products we reviewed include the Windows 95 operating system and ProComm Plus for Windows, a telecommunications software package. We also checked out two specialized remote access software products—pcAnywhere and LapLink®. Upon completion of our review, we drew the following conclusions:

If you only occasionally send a file via modem, Windows 95 is sufficient. To transfer several files simultaneously, you'll need a more sophisticated communications program like ProComm Plus. Only those road warriors who frequently perform file exchanges or work in programs on other computers will want true remote access software, such as pcAnywhere or LapLink.

LapLink is designed for fast, flexible file transfers. The software supports connections to several computers and allows users to perform various remote access functions at the same time. Essentially, you can open windows for chat, remote control and file transfer functions to more than one remote computer.

If you're looking for more security and general-purpose communications features, pcAnywhere may be your best choice. Note: Programs like pcAnywhere and LapLink modify your system files, so it's important to test all remote access functions before hitting the road; don't rely on these programs to work flawlessly on your computer the first time. OA

Internet World Home Expo '96

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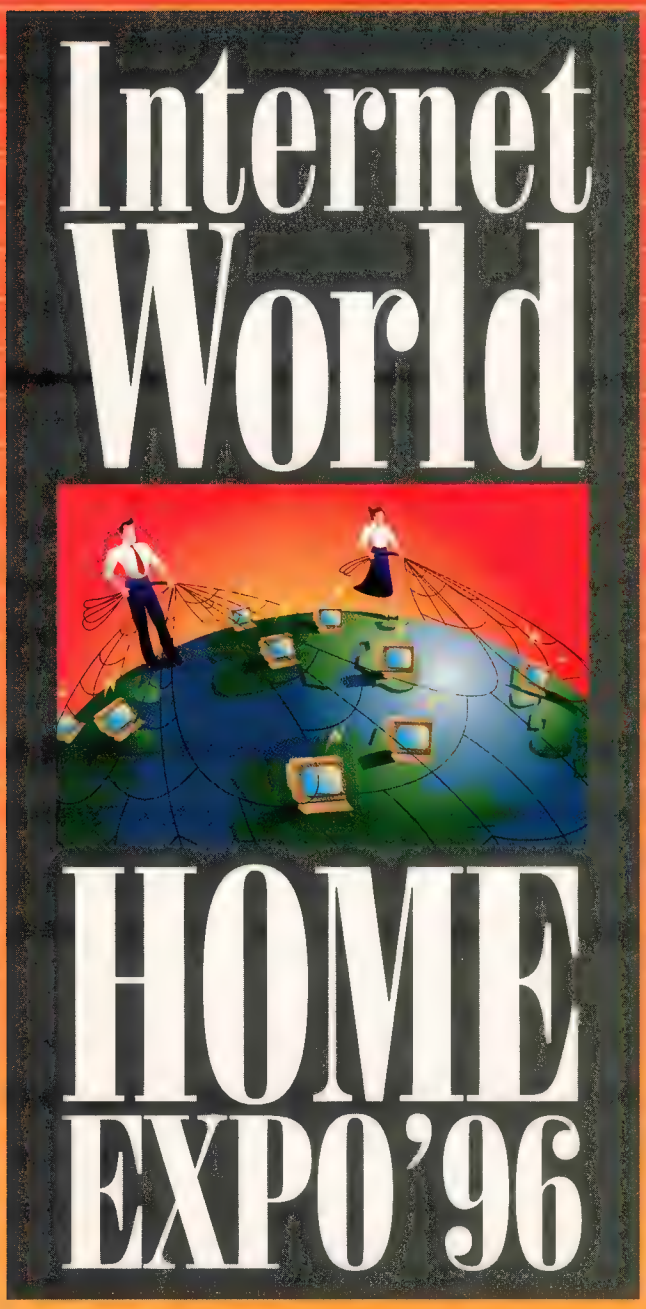

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email: cfisch@mecklermedia.com

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Accidental User

In this month's Accidental User, we'll show you some tricks for using CompuServe's integrated Web browser, Netlauncher. We'll also show you how to add some personality to your e-mail messages by creating signature files (p. 63) and give you some general Web-surfing tips (p. 64).

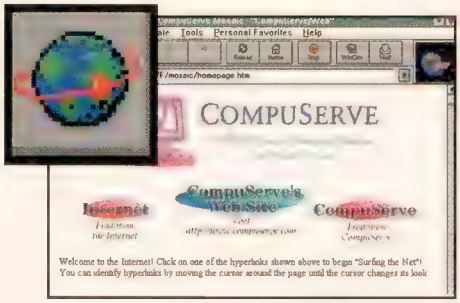
By Stephanie Johnson

On the Internet With CompuServe

CompuServe's new version, WinCIM 2.0, has made it easy for members to access the Internet with the Netlauncher Web browser. To use Netlauncher, you will need to download WinCIM 2.0 from CompuServe (go **order**) or call the service at 800-848-8199, voice, for a free membership kit. New icons and menu options have been added to WinCIM, enabling members to go between the Web and CompuServe (and vice versa) with the click of a button. The service has also added a few new features for typing in Web addresses. We have put together some tips to show you how to access Web pages, send e-mail from Netlauncher and post messages to Usenet newsgroups on the new CompuServe.

Accessing the Web

There are two new ways to access the Web from the Basic Services menu. You can click on the Mosaic button on the WinCIM toolbar, which will start Netlauncher and call up the CompuServe home page. Leaving Netlauncher to go back to Basic Services is just as easy—simply click on the WinCIM icon.



Clicking on the Mosaic icon on the WinCIM toolbar will start Netlauncher.

The other way to access a Web page is by using the Go command. CompuServe has extended the field in the Go dialog box so that members can enter any Web page address (URL). Once you enter the URL in the Go edit field, the Web page will download to your screen. This way you don't have to wait for the CompuServe home page to download before you enter the Web page address.

You can access a Web page from WinCIM by entering its URL from the Go command.

Accessing Commercial Web Pages

CompuServe has made it much easier to access commercial Web pages, whose URLs usually begin with the prefix **www.** and end with the suffix **.com**. To access a commercial home page, all you have to do is enter the word between the **www.** and **.com** in the Web Page location field. For example, to access the Godiva Chocolatier page (**http://www.godiva.com/**), type the word *godiva* in the Web Page location field.

Unfortunately, this shortcut will take you only to the home page, or first page, of the Web document. To access non-commercial Web pages, which usually have longer URLs than commercial sites, you must enter the entire URL in the Web Page location field.

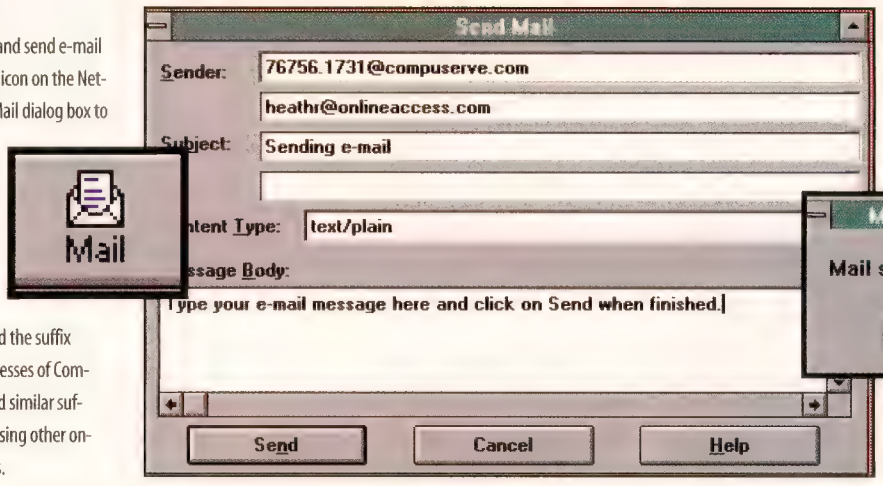
Link to a commercial Web page by entering just the middle word (godiva) of its URL.

Netlauncher E-Mail Tips

There are two ways to compose and send e-mail while using Mosaic. Clicking on the Mail icon on the Netlauncher toolbar will prompt the Send Mail dialog box to appear on your screen with your e-mail address in the Sender field. Tab down to the next box and enter the e-mail address of the receiver. You no longer have to type in *INTERNET:* to send a message to non-CompuServe members. However, you will need to add the suffix **@compuserve. com** to the e-mail addresses of CompuServe members, just as you would add similar suffixes to the e-mail addresses of people using other online services or Internet service providers.

After you type your message in the proper text boxes and click on Send, a dialog box will appear, confirming that the e-mail message was sent.

You can also send e-mail by entering the **mailto:recipient @address** command in the Web Page location field. The Send Mail dialog box will pop up on your screen after you hit return.



Clicking on the Mail icon will access the Send Mail dialog box, where you can compose your message.

The Mail Feedback dialog box will appear after you send your messag

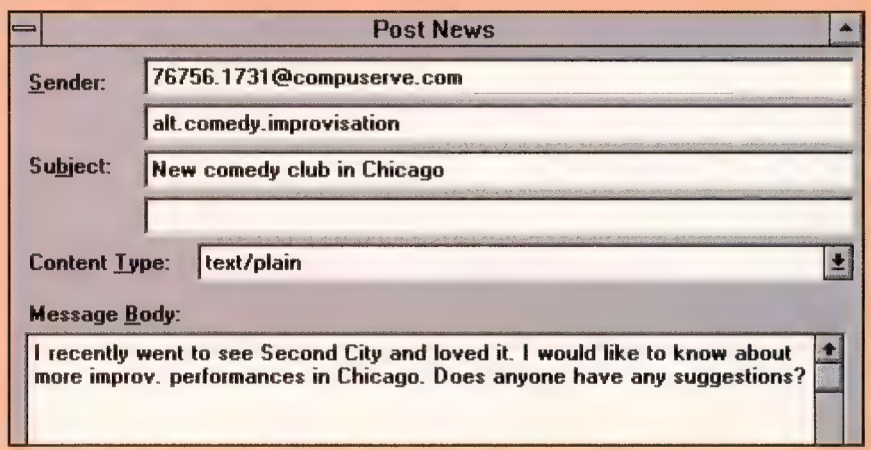
*Another way to create e-mail is by typing the **Mailto:** command in the Web Page location field.*

Opening News from the pull-down Tools menu and entering the newsgroup name will link you to the postings in the group.

Accessing Usenet Newsgroups

You can access Usenet newsgroups—topic-specific areas containing messages posted by other users—with Netlauncher by selecting News from the pull-down Tools menu. Enter the name of the newsgroup in the Newsgroup Name dialog box, and Mosaic will link you to the group. The opening page lists the subjects of posts so that you can click on the posts you find interesting.

If you wish to post a message to a newsgroup, click on the Post to Newsgroup link in the opening page's upper right-hand corner. Enter a subject in the Subject edit field, type your message in the text box and click on Send. You will then receive a News Feedback dialog box indicating that the message was posted. Don't expect your message to appear on the page immediately; it may take a few hours or days, depending on the service. Other readers of the newsgroup will post replies to your message. The replies are then routed to your CompuServe e-mail.


Post News
Sender:
76756.1731@compuserve.com
alt.comedy.improvisation
Subject:
New comedy club in Chicago
Content Type:
text/plain
Message Body:
I recently went to see Second City and loved it. I would like to know about more improv. performances in Chicago. Does anyone have any suggestions?

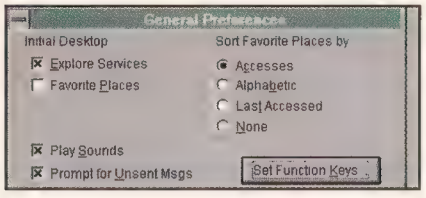
Enter a subject and your message in the Post News dialog box, and replies from other users will be sent to your e-mail address.

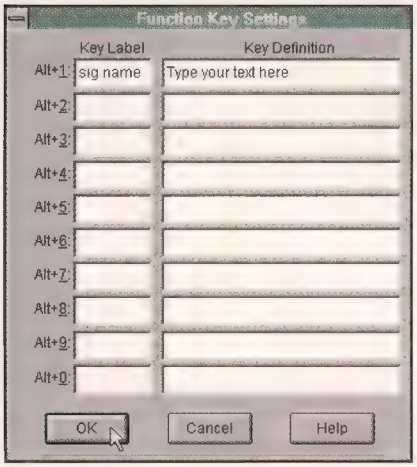
Creating Signature Files

A signature file (sig) is an automatic, personal sign-off or signature that you can place at the end of an online message with the touch of a key or click of the mouse. Users create sig files in advance and attach them to messages.

Sig files can be great time-savers, especially when you are required to sign off on your messages with a title, company information or disclaimer. Many users personalize their sig files with humorous or philosophical quotes called taglines. Some sig files contain pictures or designs made up of dashes, asterisks and slashes. You can create sig files on most of the major online services, except for Microsoft Network. Here's how to create signature files on your favorite online services:

CompuServe: It's easy to create sig files on CompuServe. First, choose Preferences from the pull-down Special menu and click on General. Then select the Set Function Keys button and type a name for your sig file under Key Label. In the Key Definitions field, type in the text for your signature file. Indicate the keyboard command for your sig file (alt+1, 2, 3, etc.) and click on OK. When you are in e-mail or on a forum, press alt+1 to add your signature to the end of your message.

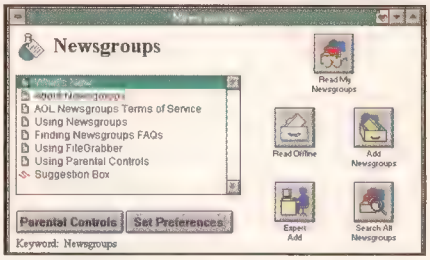


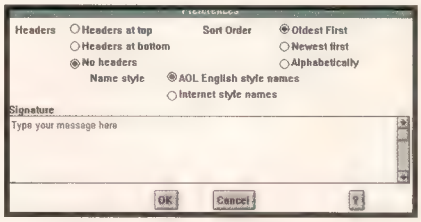


Here are the steps for creating sig files on CompuServe.

America Online: On AOL, you can attach sig files to messages that you post in newsgroups. Enter the keyword **newsgroups**, click on Set Preferences and then type your message into the Signature box. To add your sig file, just click on the Use Signature box at the bottom of the post message window.

You'll need to download additional software to create sig files for forum and e-mail messages on AOL. To create sig files for forum messages, you'll need a shareware add-on program by Compunik called Sweetalk. To download Sweetalk, enter the keyword **filesearch** and type in **AOL Add On** in the Category line. Then select the SWEETALK.ZIP file and read the file description. To do the actual download, you will first need to download a program called VBRUN 300. Sweetalk's file description contains directions on how to quickly and easily obtain VBRUN 300.

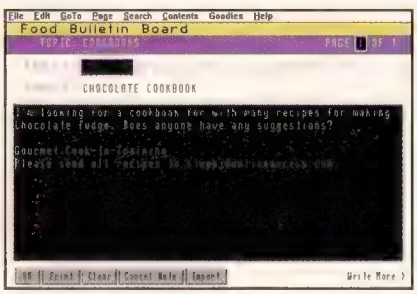




You can create a sig file on AOL newsgroups by clicking on the Set Preferences button.

Prodigy: You can create a signature file on Prodigy by selecting ScratchPad from the pull-down Edit menu. Type in your message and save the file with a .mac extension, which stands for macro. While on a Prodigy BB, embed your sig file in a message by choosing Play Macro from the pull-down Goodies menu and opening your saved sig file.

To add your sig to a BB message, compose and save it on Prodigy's ScratchPad feature.



BBSs: The popular telecommunications software ProComm Plus for Windows creates sig files for BBSs with the Meta Key Editor, which is located in the Tools menu. Just open the editor, select an available Meta Key, and type the text of your sig in the Contents field. Label the key and then click on OK. If the Meta Key icon bar is displayed at the bottom of your ProComm screen, you will see your label on the Meta Key. Click on the key, and your sig will appear on screen.

Sig Add-Ons

There are also separate utilities that can help you create sig files and taglines on the online services. One of the simplest ways to make a sig file on America Online and Prodigy is to use Royston's Pro-Util for Windows. Check out the Royston home page at **http://www.royston.com** or send e-mail to **pete@royston.com** for more information.

Just for fun, check out Vicki's Collection of Sigs at **http://www.gulf.net/~vbraun/sigs/part1.html**. Her collection contains more than 508,000 bytes worth of sigs. You can also visit the Signature Museum at **http://www.skypoint.com/members/genen/sigs.html**. Boasting a collection of sigs and taglines in several categories, you can pick up ideas for your own personal message. —*Rita Laws*

Web Basics: The Anatomy of a Web Page

The World Wide Web is one of the most popular Internet features. Web pages contain not only text, but also multimedia features, such as graphics, sound and video.

On a single Web site, you can click on highlighted text or images that connect to other parts of that Web page or to other Web sites all over the Internet. Web pages also provide links to other Internet resources, such as telnet sessions and gopher and ftp sites, as well as Usenet newsgroups.

Although Web pages vary greatly in content, most of them contain many of the same basic parts. We have outlined the features that you'll see on most pages and included some information to get you started surfing on the Web.

Uniform Resource Locator (URL)—All Web pages have a URL, which is basically a server location where a page originates and information is stored. All information on an Internet document is contained in the URL, which is made up of several parts: a protocol, domain name, path and filename. In the Location window, you can type in a URL in order to access a Web site.

Netscape - [ONLINE ACCESS Web Edition]
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory Help
Back Home Reload Open Print Find
Location: http://www.oamag.com/
What's New! What's Cool! Handbook Net Search Net Directory Newsgroups
Online Access
Welcome to ONLINE ACCESS Web Edition
ONLINE ACCESS magazine is YOUR connection to online services, bulletin boards and the Internet. As a monthly publication, we guide online users through th
make their online experience interesting, easy, productive and, mos
ACCESS Web Edition provides the best resources to make you a

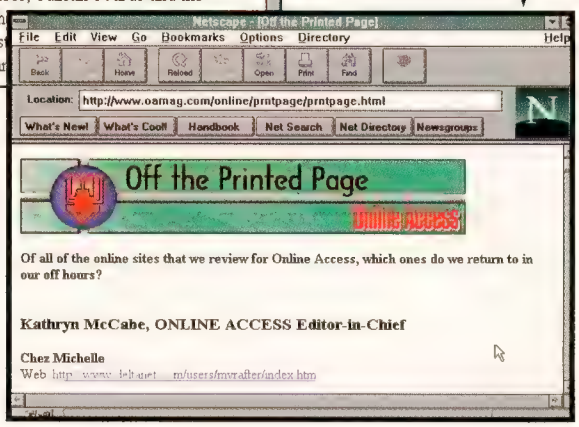
Image Map—This clickable, visual map is made up of a single graphics file and helps users easily navigate a Web site. You can click on various portions of the image and link to other sections of that Web site or to another Web page on a different server.

Hypertext Link—Also known simply as a link, this feature is one reason that the Web is easy to use. Hypertext links are built-in connections to other Web pages or sites. Links can appear as highlighted words, images and buttons on a Web page.

The colored hypertext links take you to other Web pages.

The image map is full of visual cues that link you to other pages with a simple click of the mouse.

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory
Location: http://www.oamag.com/magazine/magazine.htm
What's New! What's Cool! Handbook Net Search Net Directory Newsgroups
ONLINE ACCESS Magazine
Online Access
Great Bulletin Boards
ONLINE ACCESS August 1995


Netscape - [Off the Printed Page]
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Options Directory Help
Location: http://www.oamag.com/online/prntpage/prntpage.html
What's New! What's Cool! Handbook Net Search Net Directory Newsgroups
Off the Printed Page
Online Access
Of all of the online sites that we review for Online Access, which ones do we return to in our off hours?
Kathryn McCabe, ONLINE ACCESS Editor-in-Chief
Chez Michelle

SAVINGS CERTIFICATE

☑ YES, please enter my one-year, 12-issue subscription to ONLINE ACCESS for just $24.00. I understand that I'll SAVE 60% off the regular cover price.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

❒ PAYMENT ENCLOSED ❒ BILL ME

Online Access

Your Connection to Online Services, Bulletin Boards and the Internet

SAVE 60%

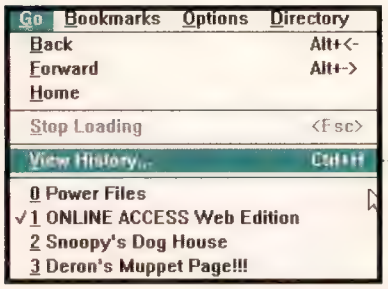
NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO 89227 CHICAGO, IL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Online Access®

SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT
5615 W CERMAK ROAD
CHICAGO IL 60650-9884



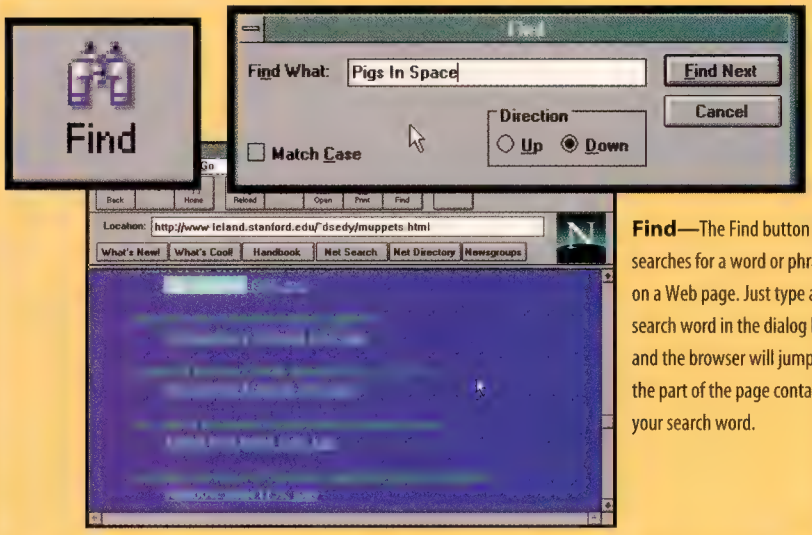
Go—The Go menu on a Web browser contains navigating commands that are also found on the toolbar (Back, Forward, Home and Stop). The browser's specified home page is listed here as well.

The pull-down Go menu also has the View History option, which shows all of the sites that you've accessed.

View History (in the Go menu)—The history list is a chronological list of all of the Web sites (title and URL) that you have recently viewed during your Web browser session. You can add sites from the history list to a bookmark or access a previous site from here by double-clicking on it.

History
Power Files : http://www.comag
ONLINE ACCESS Web Edition : http://www.comag
Snoopy's Dog House : http://www.unite
Deron's Muppet Page!!! : http://www-leland
Fade In: ONLINE : http://www.best
Index page : http://www.books
Index page : http://www.books
Welcome to Netscape : http://home.netsc

Navigating Buttons—Back, Forward and Home do essentially what the buttons say. **Back** will return you to previously accessed pages in the history list, while **Forward** will jump you to the next page in the history list. **Home** returns you to a default home page or a designated home page that you select in the Windows Style option of the Preferences menu. **Stop** will halt a Web page or image from transferring or downloading to your computer. You may want to use this feature when a connection is taking too long.



Find—The Find button searches for a word or phrase on a Web page. Just type a search word in the dialog box, and the browser will jump to the part of the page containing your search word.

Search for words on a Web page by using the Find button.

Getting on the Web

The most important tool used when cruising the Web is a Web browser. A Web browser is a program that communicates with servers, retrieves Web pages and finds links to other Web pages. Although browsers vary, all of them have some of the same standard features. You'll see applications for navigating, marking favorite Web sites, saving URLs and printing. Browsers, such as Netscape, can be downloaded from the Internet or from an Internet service provider (ISP). You can also purchase Internet software packages with Web browsers from computer stores.

We recommend using an online service, such as AOL, CompuServe, Prodigy or MSN, when connecting to the Internet for the first time, because the setup is easy and the software is already provided. With an online service, all you have to do is type in a keyword or click on an icon to connect to the Web. Also, technical support is available whenever you need it.

Joining an ISP in your area is another way you can access the Web. There are two categories of ISPs: full-featured, national providers and local providers. Full-featured, national ISPs, such as Netcom and PSI/Pipeline, provide their members with an easy-to-install software kit, so there are no complicated configurations or protocols to understand. Members simply dial-up the provider and use a graphical user interface to access the Web, Usenet newsgroups and ftp and gopher sites. Using these services will cost about $19.95 per month, which includes 40 hours of prime-time connection. Pipeline, however, offers unlimited use. If you plan to spend a lot of time surfing, Pipeline may be your best bet.

Whether you decide to go with an online service or an ISP, you'll discover how easy it is to spend hours surfing the Web. Make sure to choose the service with the best pricing plan for your needs. For more Internet know-how, check out next month's special Internet issue.

Internet Access

Contact any of these companies to help you get started on the Web.

America Online
8619 Westwood Center Dr.
Vienna, VA 22182-2285
800-827-6364, voice

CompuServe
5000 Arlington Centre Blvd.
P.O. Box 20212
Columbus, OH 43220
800-848-8199, voice

Microsoft Network (MSN)
Microsoft Corporation
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052-6399
800-386-5550, voice

Netcom Online Communications, Inc.
3031 Tisch Way, 2nd Fl.
San Jose, CA 95128
800-501-8649, voice
408-345-2600, voice

Netscape Communications Corporation
501 E. Middlefield Rd.
Mountain View, CA 94043

Pipeline USA
510 Huntmar Park Dr.
Herndon, VA 22070
800-453-PIPE, voice

Prodigy
445 Hamilton Ave.
White Plains, NY 10601
800-PRODIGY, voice
415-528-2661, voice

1995 HotShots Take the Spotlight

By Kristen Davidson

The competition was hot this past year as new online products and services vied for top honors in the ONLINE ACCESS/Information Industry Association (IIA) HotShots Awards program. Entries were solicited throughout the summer and distributed to a panel of judges, who evaluated the products and services this past September and October. The evaluation process concluded with a daylong meeting-of-the-minds, where the final judging took place.

Winners were announced on October 16, 1995, at IIA headquarters in Washington, D.C. A banquet luncheon honoring the winners followed in December. The award-winning products and services were selected based on quality, innovation, technological merit and uniqueness—no small feats in today's fiercely competitive online market. Read on to find out about 1995's brightest stars.

Best Alternative Online Service

Personal Journal

Dow Jones & Co., Inc.
voice: 609-520-4000
Web: http://www.bis.dowjones.com/pj.html

Personal Journal is an electronic edition of *The Wall Street Journal* that provides subscribers with continually updated access to personally selected news. One of the service's features, Personal Delivery, is an autodialer that delivers news and information to users' PCs upon their request. Another feature, Personal Portfolio, can be used to follow the progress of selected stocks and mutual funds.

Best Consumer Online Service

America Online

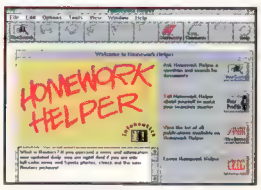
voice: 800-827-6364

With more than 3.5 million subscribers, America Online is currently the largest, consumer online service. It provides a wide variety of features and services, including World Wide Web access, e-mail, chat, software and online classes. Members can also obtain weather reports, stock quotes and the latest news from regional and national publications.

Best Educational Product or Service

Homework Helper

Infonautics Corporation
voice: 800-860-9227
Prodigy: jump homework helper



Homework Helper is a comprehensive text and graphics database that provides reference and current information on science, technology, the humanities, business and current events. Information retrieval is achieved simply by typing in a question or by creating a customized search according to subject, date, author, publication or document title.

Best Financial Service, Corporate

Analyst Tool™

Disclosure® Incorporated
voice: 800-846-0365

ANALYST TOOL™
A PRODUCT OF DISCLOSURE® INCORPORATED

Analyst Tool is an EDGAR-ready software/data package that provides industry analysts with full-text databases of financial information from various companies. The program standardizes company-reported performance data so that users can make objective comparisons of businesses in the same industry.

Best Financial Service, Personal

StreetSmart 2.0 for Windows™

Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.
voice: 415-627-7000

The new version of StreetSmart, Charles Schwab's personal investment software, offers powerful research tools, including the electronic version of Schwab's own guide to mutual funds. Other new features include an improved portfolio manager with graphing capabilities, an enhanced graphical user interface and two-way e-mail for better customer support.

Best Financial Service, Personal Honorable Mention

Money & Investing Update

Dow Jones & Co., Inc.
voice: 609-520-4000
Web: http://update.wsj.com

Money & Investing Update is an interactive publication featuring continually updated news from *The Wall Street Journal*. Features include top international business news stories from the Journal's "What's New" column, financial market reports and personal financial stories.

MONEY & INVESTING UPDATE

Best Government Service

LEGI-SLATE® for Windows™

LEGI-SLATE, Inc.
voice: 800-733-1131

LEGI-SLATE for Windows is a communications program designed to work with LEGI-SLATE's comprehensive databases of U.S. Congress and federal regulatory agency information. The new and improved interface features point-and-click searches, faster and more readable displays, and multiple options for saving reports.

Best Legal Service

LEXIS®-NEXIS® Office

LEXIS-NEXIS
voice: 800-227-4908
Web: http://www.lexis-nexis.com

LEXIS-NEXIS Office incorporates Windows-based applications for storing and organizing information retrieved from LEXIS-NEXIS services. Designed especially for attorneys and legal researchers, this software package enables legal professionals to effectively browse and retrieve online images, incorporating them into their legal work products.

Best New Service

Personal Journal

Dow Jones & Co., Inc.
voice: 609-520-4000
Web: http://www.bis.dowjones.com/pj.html

Personal Journal is an electronic edition of *The Wall Street Journal* that provides subscribers with continually updated access to personally selected news. Subscribers can set up a Personal News profile which tracks business and worldwide news articles about chosen topics.

Best Online Entertainment Service

Entertainment Channel

America Online
voice: 800-827-6364

The Entertainment Channel covers all facets of the entertainment industry, including television, music, movies, games and much more. The premier attraction is CenterStage, a virtual theater comprised of four auditoriums, where users can interview their favorite celebrities online.

Best Professional Online Service

Physicians' Online™

voice: 914-332-6100
Web: http://www.po.com

Created by physicians for physicians, Physicians' Online is the first national online service to provide members with unlimited free access to current medical information. This one-of-a-kind service offers access to several major medical reference services, such as MEDLINE, AIDSLINE and CANCERLIT. Other features include global e-mail, message boards and continuing medical education classes.

Best Professional Online Service Honorable Mention

EyeQ

DataTimes Corporation
voice: 800-642-2525

In 1995, DataTimes reengineered its 14-year-old business online service to come up with EyeQ, a network geared and marketed to a broad audience of business end users. EyeQ features electronic news clipping services, automated compilations of industry and company news, and much more. Another unique feature of EyeQ allows users to order comprehensive company or industry profiles and receive them via fax, courier or mail.

Best Science/Technology Service

SciFinder™

Chemical Abstracts Services, a division of the American Chemical Society
voice: 614-447-3731
Web: http://www.cas.org

SciFinder is a client/server interface that provides scientists with point-and-click access to 12 million documents and information on 14 million substances from Chemical Abstracts Services files. Scientists can browse research topics and compare their findings to the results of other similar experiments .

Best SOHO (Small Office/Home Office) Product or Service

LEXIS®-NEXIS® Small Business Services

LEXIS-NEXIS
voice: 800-227-4908
Web: http://www.directory.net/lexis-nexis/sba

Small Business Services aims to provide a single source of practical, relevant and up-to-the-minute news and information for small businesses. Features of the service include the National Business Exchange—a database of over 6,000 businesses for sale around the United States—and the Small Business Advisor, which provides over 6,000 articles specifically geared to the small or home office professional. Recent issues of 24 publications are also online in the service's reference section.

Best Consumer Web Access

Prodigy

Prodigy Services Company
voice: 800-PRODIGY
e-mail: freetrial@prodigy.com

Prodigy was the first major consumer online service to provide World Wide Web access to its members. Prodigy also provides members with access to its General Interest Home Pages, such as Business/Finance, Travel, Computers and Health/Fitness, and to over 100 Special Interest Group Home Pages. Prodigy members can also create their own home pages for the entire Web community to view.

Best Web Site, Business

Environmental RouteNet

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
voice: 800-843-7751
Web: http://www.csa.com

Environmental RouteNet's World Wide Web home page provides subscribers with a wealth of environmental resources on the Internet. Information on 35 environmental subject categories, such as hazardous waste and pollution, is available on the service's databases and via links to other environmental Web sites

Best Web Site, Consumer

Music Boulevard™

Telebase Systems, Inc.
voice: 610-293-4700
Web: http://www.musicblvd.com

Music Boulevard is a full-scale, multimedia music store, offering a catalog of over 145,000 listings. CDs and cassettes of every musical genre can be ordered online. Customers can also listen to soundbytes and view Billboard chart listings. Music Boulevard is home to Music Wire, the Web's first daily music magazine.

Best Magazine, Electronic Edition

Business Week Online

The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.
voice: 212-512-2882

Business Week Online, the interactive version of the world's largest business magazine, was launched exclusively on America Online in 1994. Business Week Online provides the magazine's complete domestic and international editions each week, as well as a full series of online conferences, interactive features and content developed specifically for the online edition of *Business Week*. OA

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4000
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THE ULTIMATE GUIDE

December '95
- 500 AOL Sites
- 500 CompuServe Sites
- 400 Prodigy Sites
- 500 Usenet Newsgroups
- 1,000 BBSs
- 1,000 Web Sites

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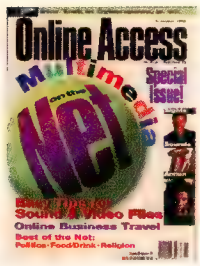
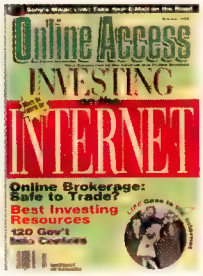


November '95
- Multimedia on the Net
- Coping with information overload
- Homework S.O.S.
- Business Travel Online
- Editors Choice: Religion, Politics,Science Fiction and more.



October '95
- Best Online Investing Resources
- Online Brokerage: Safe to Trade?
- Sony's Magic Link
- Finishing Your Degree Online
- 120 Government Information Centers

September '95
- Creating Your Own Web Page
- Big Bargains in Online Business Info
- Web Browsers: Superheroes of the Internet
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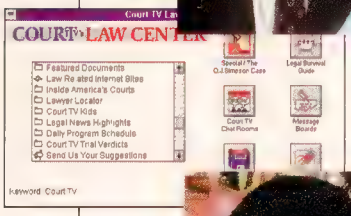
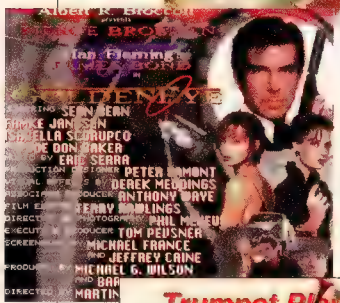
HotList

By Heath Row, Cory Hance and Carol Freer

Audio
Additional Links
Files
Pictures
Transactions
Video

Welcome to Online Access' HotList, your directory to the best sites on the World Wide Web, online services, Usenet, other parts of the Net and a variety of BBSs. This month, we offer 296 online resources that feature people, law, television, movies and music. Under each subject, we've organized the sites by location, dividing them into four general categories. The key on this page and every right-hand page will tell you whether a site offers audio, video, pictures, files, transactions and additional links.





15 People on the Net

Who are the people in your neighborhood? If the Internet and online services form a global village, it's a good idea to know who lives next door. But as physical location becomes less important, it's not as easy to find people online as it is in the real world. Hotlist offers this mini-directory of 15 experts, authors, artists and others who spend time online to help you get an idea of who's doing what where.

66 Legal Resources

A wide variety of legal information is available online, from the entire text of the U.S. Constitution and current bills before Congress to attorney directories and material about parents' rights. Online Access' HotList of legal resources can help users find a lawyer almost instantly, as well as information about law schools, freedom of speech and intellectual property rights on the Net.

75 Television Sites

When your favorite shows aren't on TV, you can still access the best in programming information and TV commentary with HotList's selection of online sites. Fans develop Web pages devoted to their favorite TV celebrities, programs and networks, while the networks themselves also get into the mix by offering promotional information.

72 Movies Online

Throw a bag of popcorn into your microwave, turn on your modem and get ready for a night at the movies in the comfort of your own home. Current box-office favorites are often featured online, complete with audio and video clips. Fans can pay online homage to silver screen icons, such as Harrison Ford, on various Web pages, and read movie reviews as well.

78 Music Resources

From trumpet lessons to easy-listening music á la Martin Denny, the Net and online services can help users track down noteworthy news, trivia about rock 'n' roll, film scores and jazz, as well as other music genres. Audio files are widely available.

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www address: http://dialnsa.edu/home.html

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Info Market Place

Every month **Info MarketPlace** brings you information about new products and services available online. Turn to page 91 to find out more.

People on the Net

It's easy to forget that e-mail, Usenet posts and Web pages are written by real people. It's the people online who make the Net what it is, and when you're searching for information or a friendly ear, the people in cyberspace can often supply what you need. This month, HotList features the e-mail addresses of 15 computer experts, authors and artists.

The Web

Scott Adams
scottadams@aol.com

Scott Adams' comic strip *Dilbert* follows the misadventures of a techie desk jockey and his dog, Dogbert. Adams sends out a periodic e-mail newsletter, and United Media, which syndicates *Dilbert*, posts old cartoons, photographs, sketches and more on the Dilbert Zone, **http://www.unitedmedia.com/comics/dilbert**.

John Perry Barlow
barlow@eff.org

Barlow, cofounder of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an online rights organization, also served as a lyricist for the Grateful Dead. Recently interviewed in the *Shambhala Sun*, Barlow and poet bell hooks explored how computer-mediated communication can emote spirituality. In a recent issue of *Spin* magazine, Barlow discusses how the Net may be one of the last vestiges of personal freedom.

Bill Clinton
president@whitehouse.gov

Since June 1993, users of the whitehouse.gov domain have received nearly 700,000 e-mail messages. White House Correspondence staff members wade through the mail and pass on representative samplings to the President. The Welcome to the White House Web page can be accessed at **http://www.whitehouse.gov**, and a list of documents available via e-mail can be requested at **publications@whitehouse.gov.**

John December
decemj@rpi.edu

John December, author of *The World Wide Web Unleashed* and *Presenting Java*, is a candidate in the Ph.D. program in Communication and Rhetoric at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's Department of Language, Literature and Communication. His e-journal, Computer-Mediated Communication **(http://sunsite.unc.edu/cmc/mag/current/toc.html)** addresses technical, social and political issues raised by the Net and other communications media.

Newt Gingrich
georgia6@hr.house.gov

House Speaker Newt Gingrich's e-mail address is connected to an auto-responder as part of the House of Representatives' Constituent Electronic Mail System (CEMS). If you live in Gingrich's congressional district, a staff member will bring your e-mail to his attention. To learn more about the CEMS, send e-mail to **congress@hr.house.gov.**

Al Gore
vice.president@whitehouse.gov

Although Vice President Gore doesn't personally read every e-mail message sent to him, staff members compile periodic reports detailing the concerns, ideas and suggestions communicated to Gore via the Internet.

Ed Krol
e-krol@uiuc.edu

Krol's *The Whole Internet User's Guide & Catalog* was one of the first how-to books about the Net, and it continues to be revised and updated. Krol, who is also a pilot, works as assistant director of the University of Illinois-Urbana's Network Information Services Office. He also writes a column for *Network World*.

Anne McCaffrey
72007.45@compuserve.com

Anne McCaffrey's science-fiction and fantasy novels include the *Dragonriders of Pern* trilogy. Her writing has attracted an avid group of fans who have even started an online role-playing environment called PernMUSH, based on the fictional world of Pern.

Jerod Pore
jerod23@well.com

Jerod Pore is the editor of the fanzine *Poppin' Zits* and host of The WELL's *Factsheet Five* conference. Pore is also an avid fan of conspiracy theories, UFO stories, science fiction and Japanese culture. As a contributing editor to *Factsheet Five*, a resource guide for small-press magazines, he also publishes Factsheet Five-Electric. During the day, Pore works as an information services manager at Transcisco Rail Services.

Mike Resnick
76266.1641@compuserve.com

Mike Resnick, who has been writing science fiction stories and novels since 1959, has had books printed by several publishers, including Tor, Ace, Questar and Bantam. His 1986 novel *Santiago* peaked at No. 3 on the bestseller list. Resnick has won three Hugo awards for his work, as well as a Nebula Award.

Howard Rheingold
hlr@well.sf.ca.us

Howard Rheingold, who wrote the must-reads *Virtual Reality* and *The Virtual Community*, also edited *The Whole Earth Review* and *The Millenium Whole Earth Catalog*. He also helped found HotWired, *Wired* magazine's Web site at **http://www.hotwired.com.** Rheingold's Web site, **http://www.well.com/user/hlr,** contains the full texts of many of his writings and lots of information about online communities.

Andrew Tobias

Andrew Tobias, a graduate of Harvard Business School, has written several books, including *The Funny Money Game, The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need* and *Getting by on $100,000 a Year (And Other Sad Tales).* Tobias has received the Consumer Federation of America Media Service Award and the Gerald Loeb Award for Distinguished Financial Journalism, and his computer software, Managing Your Money, is a popular personal finance tool. Recognized as a financial expert, Tobias has appeared on such TV shows as *Good Morning America* and *The Macneil-Lehrer News Hour* and written for magazines, such as *Esquire* and *TIME*. You can e-mail Tobias at 70641.473@compuserve.com.

Chip Rowe
chip@playboy.com
Chip Rowe, former associate editor of *The American Journalism Review* and currently an assistant editor at *Playboy*, also publishes a zine called *Chip's Closet Cleaner*. He is interested in online media, e-zines and pop culture.

Clifford Stoll
cliff@cfa.harvard.edu
Stoll, the best-selling author of *The Cuckoo's Egg* and *Silicon Snake Oil*, had second thoughts about the benefits of the Information Superhighway. Contending that the online world is rapidly encroaching on real-time and real-space, Stoll, a computer security and network expert, tries to devote more time to offline activities.

Andrew Tobias
70641.473@compuserve.com
A graduate of Harvard Business School, Tobias has written several books, including *The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need*, *The Funny Money Game* and *The Only Other Investment Guide You'll Ever Need*. Tobias also authored the personal finance software called Managing Your Money.

Scott Yanoff
yanoff@csd4.csd.uwm.edu
Yanoff, director of Web development for Spectracom in Milwaukee, maintains an online directory of Internet-based resources. Users can access the list at **http://www.uwm.edu/mirror/inet.services.html.**

Legal Resources

Whether you're an attorney who wants to network with peers or someone seeking legal advice before going to small-claims court, you can probably find the legal information you need online. This month, we bring you more than 60 online sites and services that provide legal documents, support groups and other legal information.

Law Journal EXTRA!

This legal news resource **(http://www.ljx.com/)** is updated several times a day, so users can always be on the cutting edge of legal news. Articles from the *New York Law Journal* and the *National Law Journal* offer commentary as well as late-breaking news, legal decisions and opinions. Law Journal EXTRA! also provides material from more than 50 online law libraries, archives and Internet mailing lists. The Law Technology Center and directory of online law firms make this site a comprehensive online legal news provider.

The Web

American Arbitration Association
http://www.adr.org
Dedicated to the resolution of disputes through out-of-court settlements, this association provides online arbitration news, as well as arbitration rules, procedures and other information.

Arent Fox Advertising Law Internet Site
http://www.webcom.com/~lewrose/home.html
Online documents on this site cover fundamental advertising principles, articles about ad policies, compliance manuals and links to related legal sites.

Cameron May
http://neon.airtime.co.uk/C-May/
As "Europe's leading environmental law publisher," Cameron May has constructed its Web pages to highlight its law catalog and conference schedule. Synopses of May's books are available, and users can order titles online, including attorney directories.

Cornell Law Review
http://www.law.cornell.edu/clr/clr.htm
Cornell Law School's bimonthly journal is featured online, offering articles, such as "Jury Participation as Political Participation Akin to Voting" and "Racist Speech, Outsider Jurisprudence and the Meaning of America."

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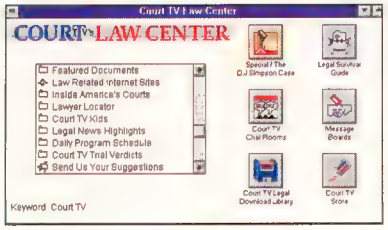

Court TV's Law Center

Court TV's Law Center on AOL (keywords court tv) is an online service of Court TV, a 24-hour cable news network that covers the U.S. legal and judicial systems. A daily program schedule is available on the site, but the bulk of the material in the Law Center isn't tied into the cable channel's content. Several legal briefs and court decisions are posted online, and the Legal Survival Guide offers valuable legal advice about used cars, child support and living wills. The site even features a lawyer locator, which is organized by area of expertise.

Dad's Place

http://edgetown.com/edgetown/Edge_Fathers_Rights.html

Dedicated to the discussion of fatherhood and fathers' rights in child custody battles, Dad's Place includes a Q&A section, a fathers' rights manual and links to other divorce- and fathers' rights-related online resources.

Divorce Online

http://www.divorce-online.com

Provided by the American Divorce Information Network, Divorce Online features information about legal help, financial planning, family counseling and other issues faced by divorcing couples. Several articles include FAQs.

Electronic Easement

http://www.ualberta.ca/~law/ee

Affiliated with the International Property Lawyers' Association and the University of Alberta in Canada, Electronic Easement offers online information, teaching materials and news about property law.

Entrepreneur's Law Center

http://www.axxs.com/lawctr/lawctr.htm

This specialized directory of online legal resources about capital formation and business enterprise covers state and federal securities law and related topics. There's quite a bit of information about franchising and corporate law at this site as well.

Federal Communications Law Journal

http://www.law.indiana.edu/fclj/fclj.html

Published by the Federal Communications Bar Association and the Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington, this online journal addresses U.S. and international communications and information issues, such as telecommunications.

Global Arbitration Mediation Association

http://www.gama.com

The GAMA provides online FAQs about arbitration and mediation, as well as business and legal forums. GAMA also offers a directory of alternative legal dispute organizations and law professionals.

Global LawNet

http://www.lawnet.net/

Global LawNet networks lawyers with Web sites, electronic newsletters and other online legal resources. The listing of available materials is comprehensive, as are the government and regional directories.

Great Lakes Agreements, Laws and Treaties

http://www.great-lakes.net:2200/law/lawpolicy.html

This Web page by the Great Lakes Information Network provides online copies of several laws affecting the Great Lakes region. The documents include the Great Lakes Charter, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement and the Clean Air Act.

High Technology Law Journal

http://server.berkeley.edu/HTLJ

In this online journal produced by the Boalt Hall School of Law, topics include free access to outer space, chemical patent practice, the Clipper chip and other high technology subjects.

Hollywood Law Cybercenter

http://www.hollywoodnetwork.com/Law/

The Hollywood Law Cybercenter's discussion groups feature information about criminal law, making film deals online, film finance, patent and trademark issues, and writers' rights. Hosted by industry professionals and attorneys, the groups answer users' queries as well.

IIA
INFORMATION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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- Financial Information Services

IIA's Venture Forum brings together key information industry players engaged in the industry's most exciting technologies and markets. Panels will feature senior executives from leading companies in key industry segments, and interactive discussions will focus on the marketplace, company strategies, technology trends, projections of growth and profitability and positive and negative factors affecting potential growth. The Venture Forum will offer an invaluable educational and networking opportunity for entrepreneurs, emerging companies, corporate development and marketing specialists, venture capitalists and individual investors.

For more information FAX IIA at (202)638-4403 or Phone (202)639-8262.

THOMAS

Named after Thomas Jefferson, THOMAS (http://thomas.loc.gov) is a service of the Library of Congress and offers a large collection of legislative information on the Net . Among the materials offered are the full texts of all House and Senate bills penned in 1994 and 1995, which are available in a searchable database. The *Congressional Record* is also available online, as are current bill summaries and the entire U.S. Constitution. Several government-related links are offered as well, along with an essay about how federal laws are made in the United States.

Immigration Home Page
http://www.panix.com/~rmadison/

The Law Office of Richard Madison provides details about working visas, priority dates, extending visas, work authorization and more on this site. General information about trends in immigration law is also available.

International Entertainment & Multimedia Law & Business Network
http://www.laig.com/law/intnet

Sponsored by Harris Tulchin & Associates, an international entertainment and multimedia law firm, this Web site is a useful mix of entertainment law and other types. Files deal with intellectual property, copyright law and other information.

International On-Line Legal Directory
http://www.iigi.com/~iig/ild.html

The International On-Line Legal Directory is an online listing of law firms, attorneys, court recorders, paralegals and other law professionals. The site is currently limited to California and Texas, but the directory will grow as more people sign on.

Journal of Online Law
http://www.law.cornell.edu/jol/jol.table.html

This electronic publication examines law and online communication, and explores legal issues raised by networked communication. The journal's premier issue focused on the right of online attribution and anonymity.

Judicial Electronic Document and Data Interchange
http://www.ncsc.dni.us/jeddi/jeddi.htm

JEDDI is a proposed system in which all documents issued to and by courts of law would be transmitted electronically. This Web page outlines the system and offers commentary about the system and opportunities to participate.

Legal Information Institute
http://www.law.cornell.edu

Hosted by the Cornell Law School, the Institute's online content features Supreme Court decisions, the full U.S. legal code, an e-mail directory of U.S. law school faculty and staff, topic menus and links to other sources.

Law Practice Management Page
http://seamless.com/jpw/manage.html

If you operate a law practice or small business, the Law Practice Management Page may help you, with its information about technology planning, law practice management and firm governance, and employee compensation techniques.

Law School Admission Council Online
http://www.lsac.org

The Law School Admission Council offers online schedules for the LSAT and information about law school forums and legal fairs in North America, as well as a catalog of publications for students. Financial aid information is also available.

Law Student Web
http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~ddunn/l_schl.htm

The University of Oregon School of Law provides this directory of online law schools, postings of offbeat court opinions and personal Web pages from law students across the country.

Law World
http://www.lawworld.com/lw100001.htm

With a rich graphic user interface, Law World is part of the city of New Atlantis, a virtual community. Law World consists of legal forms, a lengthy directory of Oregon-based lawyers and links to other pertinent resources.

LAWLinks
http://www.counsel.com/cchome.html

This service of Lexis Counsel Connect, an online communications network for lawyers, features a weekly legal hotlist, an attorney referral service, ethics reports and other legal documents, directories and indices.

Legal Dot Net
http://www.legal.net

This online resource offers a chat section for discussion of legal issues, the Attorney's Registry, an online directory, and articles and columns about law, intellectual property and technology. The interface is colorful, but content presentation is still developing.

Law Journal EXTRA!
http://www.ljx.com/

Legal news from both the *New York Law Journal* and the *National Law Journal* is available here, as are discussion forums and 35 sections that focus on legal areas such as environmental law and products liability.

Legal Research Network
http://lern.harvard.net/

The Legal Research Network links attorneys and expert witnesses online. LERN also runs a listserv for expert witness professionals and maintains an online database of experts, including links to their Web pages.

National Center for State Courts
http://www.ncsc.dni.us

The National Center for State Courts, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the justice system, sponsors this Web page, which includes a program schedule, court technology briefs, newsletters and more.

Nolo Press Self-Help Law Center
http://gnn.com/gnn/bus/nolo

Nolo Press, the publisher of do-it-yourself law primers for non-lawyers, provides online help with fair phone billing, as well as information about wills, troubled businesses and other legal issues.

Prison Law Page
http://www.wco.com/~aerick/prison.html

The legal news and features on the Prison Law Page focus on prisoners in California, covering current prison-related legislation, prisoner-filed court cases, statistics, a guide to inmate slang and pertinent case reports.

Prison Legal News
http://weber.u.washington.edu/~lursa/PLN/pln.html

Prison Legal News is a monthly inmates' rights newsletter edited by two prisoners in Washington state. The most recent online issue is from 1993, but the Webmaster plans to put up the September 1995 issue

See/Hear/Speak No Evil
http://www.xnet.com/~paigeone/noevil/noevil.html

Bill Paige's Web timeline of challenges to free speech reads like a dirty laundry list of attacks on the First Amendment. Read about the suppression of LSD art exhibits, student newspaper censors and the First Amendment run-ins of Frank Zappa, the late musical activist.

Stanford Law and Policy Review
http://www-leland.stanford.edu/group/SLPR

Students at the Stanford Law School post online abstracts of articles from this biannual legal journal. Issues cover reproductive technology and policy, the Internet and educational reform.

Student Association for Freedom of Expression
http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/safe/home.html

This page created by MIT students promotes the freedom of expression and highlights legal cases that support free speech. There is also information available about how to access newsgroups banned by your online service provider.

Technical Assistance Bureau
http://www.intr.net/tab/

The Technical Assistance Bureau helps attorneys and insurance companies connect with consultants and expert witnesses. The Bureau's Web page lists regional offices and offers a newsletter about litigation and the medical industry.

Tenant Net
http://tenant.blythe.org/TenantNet

Whether you're a renter or you own rental property, this online resource for residential tenants' rights is a crucial guide to renting and housing laws, rent control and other issues pertinent to renters in New York, Massachusetts, Europe and Australia.

THOMAS
http://thomas.loc.gov

Named after Thomas Jefferson, this Web project offers legislative information on the Net. Material available online includes the full text of House and Senate bills, the *Congressional Record*, the U.S. Constitution and other resources.

TransLink
http://www.webcom.com/~pjones/

Focusing on electronic data interchange (EDI) in international transport, TransLink includes updates on the United Nations' Model Trading Partner Agreement and legal issues affecting international business transactions.

UCLA Online Institute for Cyberspace Law and Policy
http://www.gse.ucla.edu/iclp/hp.html

UCLA's Online Institute addresses legal jurisdiction in cyberspace, as well as freedom of expression, intellectual property and privacy. The bibliography and legal resources found at this site are especially helpful.

United States Department of Justice
http://www.usdoj.gov

The Department of Justice's Web page contains links to various office and organization directories, the text of the Violent Crime and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, information on the UNABOM case, and online federal and criminal justice services.

University of Cincinnati College of Law Center for Corporate Law

http://www.law.uc.edu/CCL/

The Center's Web server provides online versions of the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related forms, rules and regulations. Documents scheduled for posting include the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970.

Venable's Workplace Labor Update

http://venable.com/wlu/wlu7.htm

The July 1995 edition of this quarterly newsletter contains articles about unemployment compensation, smoking in the workplace, car pool regulations and other job-related legal issues.

West's Legal Directory

http://www.westpub.com/WLDInfo/WLD.htm

West's Legal Directory profiles law firms, government offices, corporate law offices and lawyers. The online version is searchable and provides in-depth information about the people and organizations listed.

World Wide Constitutions

http://www.eur.nl/iacl/const.html

Sponsored by the International Association of Constitutional Law, this Web page offers the constitutions of eight countries as well as links to other constitutional law resources.

Online Services

Court TV's Law Center

AOL: court tv

So you think you'd be a good lawyer? Enroll in the Court TV Cyber School to get a taste of the world of law. Visitors to the forum can also read trial verdicts, legal news highlights and updates on ongoing trials. The forum also offers a glossary of legal terms and a copy of the U.S. Constitution.

Legal Information Network

AOL: lin

Do you have a legal question that needs answering? Post it on the Legal Information Network and get advice from legal professionals. Here, lawyers, law students and paralegals share helpful tips during scheduled chats and on the forum's message board.

Court Reporters Forum

CompuServe: crforum

If you are a court reporter, you can share and retrieve information about your field through the Court Reporters Forum. Here you can find reporting interests, real-time/captioning information, nonreporting files, information on court-reporting schools, scopists online, shareware and issues important to court reporters.

Legal Forum

CompuServe: lawsig

In-depth legal discussion and basic question-answering take place in the Legal Forum, whose library sections include computer/technical law, attorney placement, law firm economics and procedures.

Legal Research Center

CompuServe: legalrc

The Legal Research Center contains indexes to articles from more than 750 law journals, criminal justice resources, legislative summaries and more. Costs include $1 to access and $5 to search. Article reprints cost $18.

Law Enforcement BBS

MSN Path: Categories/Public Affairs/Public Safety/Law Enforcement

This fledgling area contains discussions of the death penalty, police uniform patch trading, wannabe police officers and hostage negotiation tactics. In MSN's first three months, only 30 messages were posted at this site.

Law Office

MSN: professions Path: /Law/Law Office

People can seek online legal information and advice here, communicate with legal experts, refer to various law guides and learn about law schools. The Platinum Pages Directory of Legal Professionals is also available online.

Law & Policy BBS

MSN: (No go word; use Find function)

This BBS is devoted to environmental laws and businesses. In two months, there were only two messages posted here.

Legal Exchange BB

Prodigy: law bb

On the Legal Exchange BB, users post messages on highly publicized trials and legal ethics. Other topics of discussion include the death penalty, civil law, sexual harassment and using DNA as evidence.

Usenet

ClariNet Law Newsbytes

clari.nb.law

ClariNet's legal newsbriefs focus primarily on software piracy and licensing. Several posts in October addressed software piracy in England and Hong Kong, as well as a lawsuit between two computer manufacturers.

ClariNet U.S. Law News

clari.news.usa.law

The Associated Press and Reuter's news articles in this ClariNet newsgroup address almost every aspect of the legal scene in America, from land deals in Nevada to the O.J. Simpson trial.

Legal Computing Miscellaneous

misc.legal.computing

Participants in this newsgroup discuss the legal aspects of account passwords, kill files and cancelbots, BBS billing and software development contracts. The discussion is particularly useful to sysops.

Legal Miscellaneous

misc.legal

This newsgroup is a combination of legal analysis and commentary, with participants throwing in their two cents' worth and sometimes more. One discussion centers on the copyright issues raised by quoting Usenet posts.

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The Farnsworth Chronicles

Contrary to some historians' claims that no single person invented television, this Web document (http://www.edge.net/noma/philo/index.html) contends that Philo T. Farnsworth, a Mormon from Idaho, began developing what became the modern TV set as early as the year 1922, when he was 14 years old. Written from interviews of Farnsworth's widow and eldest son, The Farnsworth Chronicles follow the inventor's life from its humble, rural beginnings to his patent litigation against the Radio Corporation of America. Eventually, Farnsworth won the lawsuit and became the first independent inventor to win a royalty-paying patent from RCA.

Moderated Legal Miscellaneous
misc.legal.moderated

As a moderated newsgroup, discussion in **misc.legal.moderated** is slightly more focused than that in **misc.legal**. Topics include copyright law, lawyers who represent themselves and child support.

The Net and BBSs

Bored to Death VETLink
BBS: 817-244-4245

Serving U.S. veterans with claims with the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals, Bored to Death provides news about VA reform and legislation such as the Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act.

Fringe Forum, the Sequel
BBS: 904-656-2263

Fringe Forum provides help for users of its self-help legal software, which includes the Home & Business Legal Guide and On Line Legal Advisor. Files include the Microsoft antitrust order and other court documents.

News.answers Law FAQs
FTP: relay.cs.toronto.edu Path: /pub/usenet/news.answers/law

Several legal documents are available at this ftp site, including a FAQ about the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, the Legal List Internet Desk Reference and a FAQ about legal research.

Texas Gun Laws
FTP: flubber.cs.umd.edu Path: /rec/docs

Everything really *is* bigger in Texas! It takes three files to outline Texas' gun laws, and they're all available here. Look for txlaws, txlaws.2 and txlaws.3. Wyoming's and Arizona's gun laws are also available.

American Civil Liberties Union
Gopher: gopher.nyc.pipeline.com Path: Society, Law, Politics/American Civil Liberties Union

The ACLU's gopher site includes a Free Reading Room that archives the union's newsletter, public policy reports and action guides, as well as legal briefs. Users can also order publications or register online to join the ACLU.

Cornell Law School Gopher Server
Gopher: fatty.law.cornell.edu

Users can access information about Cornell's admission process, as well as a weekly calendar of events at the law school. The Directory of Legal Academia can be used to find legal experts.

Villanova Center for Information Law and Policy
Gopher: ming.law.vill.edu

Affiliated with the Villanova University School of Law, this center's gopher server provides information about the school's degree programs, a tax law compendium and papers about automating the courts.

Television

Log on and tune in to your favorite TV shows online! More than 70 online resources bring you the best in TV programming information and commentary, as well as sites developed by fans devoted to their favorite TV celebrities, programs and networks.

The Web

Academy of Television Arts
http://www.emmys.org/

The official Web page for the Emmy awards includes a list of all award nominees and winners, TV trivia, a photo gallery and video clips. There's also information about the Academy, including a calendar of events.

Advert Attack!
http://Snark.apana.org.au/adverts

Do you dislike TV commercials? Read other users' complaints about advertising, and post your own gripes here.

Batman: The Animated Series
http://www.math.ufl.edu/~wdn/comics/batman/BTAS/

This page provides lists of the cartoon's episode writers, an episode guide and hints about what fans can expect in the show's coming seasons.

Baywatch
http://baywatch.compuserve.com

The program's official Web site lets users meet actor David Hasselhoff and the rest of the *Baywatch* cast, including the sultry Pamela Lee. CompuServe provides episode updates and a photo gallery full of cast pictures.

Bosom Buddies
http://www.ozemail.com.au/~peterv/bb/index.html

Tom Hanks and Peter Scolari starred in this short-running TV series about two men who dress like women in order to live in a cheap hotel for women. This Web page includes an episode guide and a cast guide.

Britcomedy Digest
http://www.cathouse.org/BritishComedy/BD/

Britcomedy Digest, a monthly e-zine dedicated to British comedy, contains a healthy dose of TV commentary, covering such shows as *Yes, Prime Minister* and *Monty Python's Flying Circus*.

Claire Danes
http://witherspoon.umkc.edu/~dogbert/claire.html

Fans of Claire Danes and the TV show *My So-Called Life* can download pictures of the actress and a video clip of her dancing to a Violent Femmes song, as well as read bio information and a filmography.

Corporation for Public Broadcasting
http://www.cpb.org

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting oversees federal contributions to the National Public Broadcasting System. Its page provides news, the corporation's annual report, Web highlights and organizational information.

Cosmo's TV GUIDE Home Page
http://home.ptd.net/~cosmo

This unofficial TV GUIDE home page was put up by a collector of the weekly magazine. Cosmo offers a brief *TV GUIDE* history, discusses his magazine collection and offers links to other TV-related resources online.

Danger Mouse
http://www.charm.net/~altera/dm/

Devoted to Danger Mouse, the "greatest secret agent in the world," this cartoon-related site includes photos and soundbytes, information about the producers and other facts about Danger Mouse and his sidekick, Penfold.

Encydopedia Brady
http://www.primenet.com/~dbrady

Eventually, this site will be an interactive guide to all of the fictional people, places and things mentioned in the 117 episodes of the TV show *The Brady Bunch*. The episode guide is handy, but the letter-by-letter, hotlinked encyclopedia is amazingly comprehensive.

The Farnsworth Chronicles
http://www.edge.net/noma/philo/index.html

The Farnsworth Chronicles tell the online story of Philo T. Farnsworth, the inventor of television. Gleaned from information provided by Farnsworth's widow and son, the site includes sketches, pictures and a history of Farnsworth's TV experiments.

Friends
http://geminga.dartmouth.edu/~andyjw/friends/

One of many Web pages devoted to the TV show *Friends*, this site includes actor bios and filmographies, the lyrics and guitar chords to the title song, an episode guide, the rules for the *Friends* drinking game, hilarious quotes and trivia.

fX
http://www.fxnetworks.com/fx/

fX is a cable TV network that airs live, original programming, as well as classic shows, such as *Batman* and *Mission: Impossible*. On the network's Web page, you can get show synopses, download video clips and access other Net resources.

Gallery of Kennedy
http://www.well.com/user/xkot/kennedy.htm

This Web site dedicated to Kennedy, the loud-mouthed, bespectacled VJ from MTV, includes several photographs, funny fan mail and biographical information.

Gumby on the Web
http://www.xnet.com/~gumby/gumby.html

This unofficial Web site provides a list of episodes of Gumby's TV shows airing on Nickelodeon and offers the Gumby theme songs, as well as pictures, news and a scholarly article about the Eastern mysticism of Gumby. Additional content is planned.

Frostbite Falls
http://www.pomona.claremont.edu//frostbite/frostbite.html

Dedicated to the cartoon characters Rocky and Bullwinkle and their creator, Jay Ward, Frostbite Falls discusses where Ward's cartoons fit into popular culture and offers a FAQ, a SAQ (seldomly asked questions) and a guide to related publications and available videotapes.

Disney Animated Features

Relatively simple in its presentation but wide-ranging in its scope, the Disney Animated Features page offers a timeline of Disney's feature-length cartoons, starting with the 1937 movie *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. The titles at **http://www.best.com/~dijon/disney/movies/** are hotlinked to their production credits and reviews. Other links lead to song lyrics, poster art and the original fairy tales that some of the films are based on. The site also features movies that are scheduled for future theater release, such as *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Fantasia Continued*.

Hoops on TV
http://gladstone.uoregon.edu/~mccormck/hoops.html

Hoops on TV provides game listings for basketball events aired on TBS, TNT, NBC and other networks.

Infomercials
http://www.best.com:80/~dijon/tv/infomercials

Taken from the **alt.tv.infomercials** newsgroup, this site focuses on the TV program-length advertisements called infomercials, highlights better-known infomercial hosts and offers more information. The site also chronicles products sold through infomercials.

International Federation of Television Archives
http://www.nbr.no/fiat/fiat.html

Dedicated to preserving television programs from Africa, America, Australia, New Zealand and Europe, the IFTA's Web page contains the group's handbook, newsletter and speech transcripts. Links include other TV archival sites.

It's... Monty Python's Flying Circus
http://bau2.uibk.ac.at/sg/python/monty.html

This site contains episode guides with selected script excerpts, pictures from the Monty Python TV show and movies, soundbytes and song lyrics. The cast bios are a nice addition, and the search function makes this site a wonderful resource for Monty Python fans.

James Dawe's Avengers Home Page
http://nyquist.ee.ualberta.ca/~dawe/avengers.html

This *Avengers* page contains information about the 1960s British TV show and an episode guide that spans all six seasons. A lot of photographs of *Avengers* costar Diana Riggs are available, as is a WAV file of the opening song

Jessica Steen Page
http://www.infinet.com/~gc3/steen.html

This page features information about Jessica Steen, the actress from the TV shows *Earth 2* and *Homefront*. The site contains biographical information, a photo gallery and a cheese fondue recipe from Steen.

Jim's Simpsons Page
http://www.best.com/~jnc/simp/simpage.html

All the trivia about the TV show *The Simpsons* is displayed here: an episode guide, soundbytes and pictures of almost every character on the show. The sounds alone are worth a visit.

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Mentos—the Freshmaker!
http://www.best.com/~dijon/tv/mentos

What a fun site! You've seen the commercials and wondered where you, too, can find the freshness of Mentos candy. This page details the humorous Mentos commercials, the lyrics to the jingle and the candy's ingredients.

Ming-Na Wen
http://www.nd.edu/~aleyden/ming.html

A fan provides biographical information about Ming-Na Wen, the Chinese actress who starred in *ER* and is now in *The Single Guy* on NBC. The site also provides pictures and magazine articles about the actress.

MM's Frasier Page
http://www.umich.edu/~messina/frasier/

This site serves as a program guide to the award-winning show *Frasier*, complete with information about what Frasier is doing during each episode's end credits. There's also a FAQ, a picture gallery, sound bytes and trivia galore, especially about Maris, the wife of Frasier's brother, Niles.

Mr. T
http://www.l0pht.com/~veggie/MrT.html

Pictures of Mr. T from the TV show *The A-Team* grace this page, as does the introductory text to the show and an *A-Team* episode guide from 1983 to 1987.

Museum of Broadcast Communications
http://www.nwu.edu/ev-chi/musgal/broadcast/broadcast.html

One of only two broadcast museums in America, the MBC has established this Web page to offer contact information and guides to its Television Exhibit Gallery, Advertising Center and Radio Center.

Nielsen Media Research
http://www.nielsen.com/home/media/med-res.htm

Nielsen, the nation's leading source of television ratings, provides online news about its activities, the first Internet demographics survey and other features.

PBS ONLINE
http://www.pbs.org/

The Public Broadcasting Service's Web page is a daily guide to PBS' programs, news and operations. Popular PBS series are featured in their own Web pages.

The Pee-Wee Herman Worship Page
http://www.seanet.com/users/weazel/peewee.html

This zany Web page is full of photos of Paul Reubens as Pee-Wee Herman, sound clips of his best-known quips, an episode guide and character voice recordings. Selected links take users to other Pee-Wee-related pages.

Quantum Leap: The Accelerator Chamber
http://www-usacs.rutgers.edu/fun-stuff/tv/quantum-leap

On this Web page, fans of Scott Bakula and Dean Stockwell can access information about *Quantum Leap*, including an episode guide, a list of related fanzines and a rerun schedule. There's also some fiction written by *Quantum Leap* fans.

ScottLand
http://204.225.234.1/

Scott Thompson, one of the cast members of the TV show *Kids in the Hall*, has set up a virtual world on this Web page, where users establish political parties and vote for a virtual prime minister from a pool of campy TV characters.

Seinfeld
http://www.engr.wisc.edu/~heinj/seinfeld.html

Character and cast bios, soundbytes, a FAQ, an episode guide and links to other *Seinfeld* sites fill this page devoted to one of TV's most popular shows.

Speed Racer
http://www.eecis.udel.edu/~markowsk/anime/speed/

The theme song to this popular Japanese cartoon series is recorded here and posted with the lyrics. A long time *Speed Racer* fan compares the old series to the new, and another fan posts a draft of a *Speed Racer* screenplay.

The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
http://www.nbctonightshow.com/

NBC posts highlights from *The Tonight Show* the day after the show airs, and readers can check out video clips of Jay and read his jokes and headlines. Users can also view a schedule of upcoming guests and order show tickets.

TV GUIDE FALL PREVIEW Interactive
http://www.delphi.com/tvgo/

The 1995-1996 TV lineup brought us 42 new prime-time shows, and this official home page offers a day-by-day guide to the season, news about shows, including TV trend analyses and show reviews. The site even offers celebrity sound clips.

U.S. Soccer Web Site
http://www.best.com/~olivert/soccer/tv.html

This page provides schedules for soccer games that will be televised in the United States. The listings are organized by network and include regional broadcast times. Users can also access listings of soccer events to be televised in other languages.

Video Cassette Recorder Questions and Answers
http://bradley.bradley.edu/~fil/vcr.html

By pointing at different parts of a VCR pictured on screen, users can read about how to use their machine and other VCR-related topics. Users can also send e-mail messages with their own questions.

Weather Channel
http://www.infi.net/weather

Users can read about weather conditions and forecasts for U.S. cities, view national maps and access other weather links here. Fans of this cable channel can also read its history and access TV schedules.

Welcome to Palm Key
http://www.illuminatus.com/quest

This page includes an episode guide to the *Jonny Quest* cartoon. While the episode titles are rather disorganized, the sequential screen shots are wonderful and walk readers through entire cartoon storylines. Users can also vote online for their favorite episodes.

Online Services

ABC Online
AOL: abc

ABC Online gives users the scoop on ABC soap operas, sports, news and prime-time shows. Get synopses of your favorite soaps, download photos of prime-time stars and watch *Good Morning America* video clips.

C-SPAN
AOL: cspan

Get up to speed on political happenings with C-SPAN's online guide to government and politics. The forum provides summaries of congressional bills, biographies of members of Congress and a glossary of legislative terms.

Doctor Who Online
AOL: dr who

Fans of the British television series *Doctor Who* communicate with each other on Doctor Who Online. The forum offers summaries of classic episodes, press releases, downloadable photos and weekly chats.

EXTRA—Television Entertainment Show
AOL: extra

This online entertainment magazine features news about new TV shows, celebrities and more, offering photos and discussion sections. Users can read entertainment Top 10 lists and access network and studio addresses.

Geraldo Show
AOL: geraldo

Are you curious about teenage boys who have the hots for their friends' mothers? Fathers who support their families by performing exotic dancing? Visitors can find out about the topics of upcoming Geraldo shows or discuss past topics on the forum's message board.

The Pee-Wee Herman Worship Page

"Come on in, and pull yourself up a chair. Let the fun begin, it's time to let down your hair!" With those inviting words, *Pee-Wee's Playhouse* opened on Saturday mornings several years ago. Now, Web surfers can visit The Pee-Wee Herman Worship Page (**http://www.seanet.com/users/weazel/peewee.html**), to download soundbytes of Pee-Wee saying some of his more goofy lines. Users can also view a guide to *Pee-Wee's Playhouse* episodes available on videotape and an essay about actor Paul Reubens.

Melrose Mondays
AOL: melrose

Fans of *Melrose Place* can read character biographies, episode synopses and show commentaries. Web links and discussion sections highlight actors, plot predictions and upcoming guest stars.

Nick at Nite Online
AOL: nan

Nickelodeon, "your classic TV resource," offers the network's program schedules online, as well as extensive episode guides for shows, such as *Welcome Back Kotter* and *The White Shadow*. In discussion sections, users discuss pop culture.

Sightings Online
AOL: sightings

On Sightings Online, you'll find reports and photos of UFO sightings around the country. The forum, sponsored by the national TV show *Sightings* also offers a bulletin board where users can share their own otherworldly tales.

VH1 Online
AOL: vh1

Program guides and VH1 music news are available on the network's online site. Users can access video clips and pictures of celebrities as well as read program synopses and order VH1 products.

WB Network
AOL: wb

WB TV's original programming and cartoons such as *Pinky & the Brain* are featured in WB's discussion sections. Video clips and show synopses are also available.

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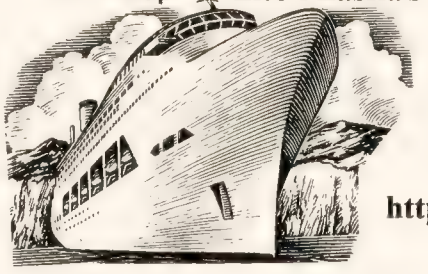

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Online Access, Web Edition

http://www.oamag.com

Friends

This well-organized site aimed at fans of the TV show *Friends* features colorful graphics and lots of entertaining information about the program. Point your Web browser to http://geminga.dartmouth.edu/~andyjw/friends/ for an episode guide, a comprehensive FAQ, lyrics to the show's theme song and photographs of the cast. Filmographies are available for all of the actors, as are links to *Friends*-related ftp and Web sites. Users can also buy *Friends* t-shirts, baseball caps and coffee mugs from Movie Madness Merchandise (http://www.moviemadness.com/), which is linked to the Friends Web page

X-Files Club Forum
AOL: x files

Fans of this TV show can download transcripts of *X-Files*-related chat sessions, show schedules and episode guides. There are also several message boards and a chat roomcovering *The X-Files* and related topics.

America's Funniest Home Videos
CompuServe: homevideo

Users of this forum discuss host Bob Saget's sense of humor, voice-overs and comedy, as well as video clips from the show, and a staff member from the show occasionally chimes in. The library contains clips from broadcasts of *America's Funniest Home Videos*.

Computers on TV Forum
CompuServe: pctv

People who watch PCTV's programs, such as *Computer Chronicles*, to learn about computers gather online to discuss certain shows. The library contains program schedules, show descriptions and demos.

Soap Opera Forum
CompuServe: soapforum

The Soap Opera Forum is the place to go for information about *As the World Turns*, *All My Children*, *General Hospital* and other soap operas. The library contains transcripts of conferences, soap newsletters, pictures and actor biographies.

TV Zone Forum
CompuServe: tvzone

The Simpsons, *Friends*, *ER* and various soap operas receive the most attention in the TV Zone Forum as people discuss their favorite shows and episodes, stars and other topics. The library includes celebrity photos and episode guides.

Comedy Central
Prodigy: comedy central

Who's the sexiest Disney heroine? Participate in the poll at the Comedy Central forum to offer your opinion. The Comedy Central cable network offers shows, such as *Absolutely Fabulous*, the *Ben Stiller Show* and *Politically Incorrect*. Visit the network online for programming times.

Court TV's Law Center
Prodigy: court tv

Users can send e-mail to the Court TV Law Center to check an attorney's credentials. The forum also provides a Legal Guide, which offers information on how to find a good lawyer, and the scoop on cases currently being shown on Court TV.

The Family Channel
Prodigy: family channel

Download educational study guides to complement the Family Channel's programming when you visit the network's online forum. These study guides help young viewers study everything from the Underground Railroad to the Holocaust.

Total TV Guide
Prodigy: total tv

This online publication is a comprehensive resource to television programming. A complete listing of network and cable shows is online and searchable by channel, time and type of program.

TV Networks BB
Prodigy: tv networks bb

Chat with such stars as Tom Selleck, Jim Belushi and Richard Simmons on Prodigy's TV Networks BB. Famous TV personalities often log on to respond to viewers' questions and comments.

WGN
Prodigy: wgn superstation

WGN, the "Chicago Superstation," is the home of Bozo the Clown. On Prodigy, find out when *Bozo's Circus* airs and how to be part of the studio audience. You can also peruse the program listings for live sporting events and movies.

Usenet

Cable TV Regulation
alt.cable-tv.re-regulate

People who participate in this newsgroup discuss the ethics and legality of pirating cable TV and gaining access through unauthorized hook-ups. The discussion isn't too exciting, but some users may find the cable equipment posts useful.

ClariNet Living TV
clari.living.tv

ClariNet prints weekly video sales charts and offers TV-related newswire stories from around the world. Topics include children's television, U.S. networks with overseas ventures and the Fox show *Mad TV*.

Daytime Talk Shows
alt.tv.talkshows.daytime

The people who hang out on this newsgroup are almost as energetic and interesting as the guests on actual talk shows. Users can read about such show hosts as Sally Jessy Raphael and Ricki Lake.

Game Shows
alt.tv.game-shows

Readers of the **alt.tv.game-shows** newsgroup discuss the various game shows, their hosts and contestants, as well as game results. The Robair Update regularly posts game show prizes and details in a statistical manner.

Prisoner
alt.tv.prisoner

Fans of the classic TV show *Prisoner* discuss the show's setting, quotes, and cryptic final episode, as well as the possibility of a *Prisoner* movie, societal control mechanisms and other heady topics. Readers debate the meaning of various metaphors and the show's totalitarianism.

Television Arts
rec.arts.tv

A catchall for TV-related discussion, **rec.arts.tv** contains posts about the O.J. Simpson trial, *Happy Days*, *ER*, actress Courtney Cox and

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family entertainment. This Web page includes a newsletter and a top-10 list of family movies.

U.C. Berkeley Film Studies Science Fiction Page
http://remarque.berkeley.edu:8001/~xcohen/Resources/scifi2.html

U.C. Berkeley's science fiction page contains links to in-depth Web sites devoted to *Blade Runner*, *Star Trek* and *Star Wars* as well as a Science Fiction Resource Guide.

Paul's Film Archive
http://www.tripleg.com.au/staff/paul/film/

Paul's Film Archive contains an alphabetized index of information about the Webmaster's favorite movies and links to movie- and actor-related home pages, as well as the Web pages of several movie companies.

Basement Films
http://www.st-and.ac.uk/~www_sa/socs/basement/contents.html

On the home page of this St. Andrews, UK, art-house film society, the group posts information about its film showings and other film-related events.

Polish Cinema Database
http://info.fuw.edu.pl/Filmy/

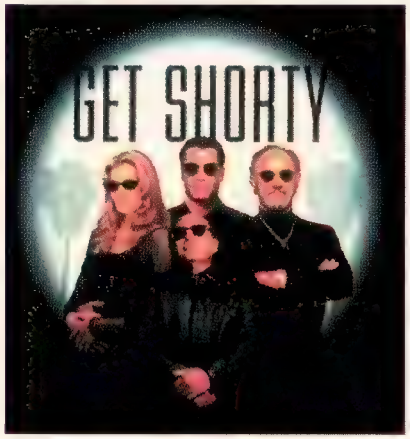
This database provides an index of information about films made in Poland from 1947 to the present. The database can help you find information on a film based on the film's title, director, year of release and related keywords.

Jim Carrey Web Page
http:www.halcyon.com/browner/

Pictures, sound samples, and newsbriefs about Hollywood's wackiest actor, Jim Carrey, can be found here, as well as movie- and Carrey-related hotlinks.

Winona Ryder Home Page
http:www.duc.auburn.edu/~harshec/WWW/Winona.html

Everything you've ever wanted to know about Winona Ryder, star of *Reality Bites* and *How to Make an American Quilt*, can be found on this Web page.



Hollywood Online

Catch the latest movie buzz on AOL's Hollywood Online (keyword hollywood). If you want to see a sneak preview of a new release or revisit your favorite movie scene, you can download a number of video, audio and graphics files from many recent movies. You probably won't meet Keanu Reeves or Madonna in the message forums, but you can keep up to date on their latest film roles, as well as the movie gossip in Hollywood Online's Movie Talk message forums. Veteran Hollywood journalist Joey Berlin offers a peek inside Tinseltown in the Inside Hollywood forum. From news and reviews to message boards and multimedia file libraries, Hollywood Online is a movie lover's dream.

Indiana Jones WWW Page
http://dialin.ind.net/~msjohnso/

The escapades of Indiana Jones are reviewed, cataloged and hotlinked at this Web site. Interesting features include Indy trivia, links to archaeology-related Web sites and articles about the Ark of the Covenant.

Legend of Bruce Lee
http://alcor.concordia.ca/~yk_poon/bruce.htm

This site contains a biography of Bruce Lee, as well as information about his films and martial arts techniques.

Making of Thunderbolt
http://www.citri.edu.au:8888/ccc/movie/Thunderbolt

This site contains production, cast and crew information about Jackie Chan's recent movie *Thunderbolt*, as well as biographical information on Chan.

Unofficial Mel Gibson Page
http://59000.furman.edu/~riley/mel_gibson.html

Biographical information on Mel Gibson, as well as information about and reviews of Gibson's movies, can be found on this Web site.

The Val Kilmer Movie Page
http://www.tc.cornell.edu:80/~cat/pages/

This site contains write-ups on all of Val Kilmer's movies, as well as a biography, a Val Kilmer quiz and even Kilmer's agent's address.

Star Wars Home Page
http://force.stwing.upenn.edu:8001/~jruspini/starwars.html

This online library of *Star Wars* information is a mecca for *Star Wars* fans. The page contains pictures and sound files, actor and producer biographies, movie scripts, FAQs, essays and reviews.

Pulp Fiction Home Page
http://colargol.edb.tih.no/~kennetha/pulp.html

This online homage to Quentin Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction* contains a FAQ section, a gallery of picures and sounds from the movie, script excerpts and links to other Tarantino-related Web sites.

Unofficial Harrison Ford Stuff Home Page
http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/lpchao/harrison.ford.html

Fans of Harrison Ford can find gossip about his future projects on this site as well as a guide to his existing work, including *Star Wars*.

Cinema@The Muse
http://hyperlink.com/muse/cinema/movies/film/cinema/movies5.htm

Cinema@The Muse is an online guide to what's happening in international cinema. Each month, the site offers a selection of current movie reviews, cult movie information and features about leading actors and directors.

Ghost Rider Leisure Page
http://www.iscs.nus.sg/~tankhimb/

In addition to the many other entertainment features housed at this site, the Ghost Rider Leisure Page contains a huge collection of movie-related archives and links.

Hong Kong Movies and Picture Library
http://kaarna.cc.jyu.fi/~tjko/hkmpl/

This site contains a library of JPEGs of Hong Kong movie posters, as well as pictures of leading Hong Kong actors and actresses and links to other Hong Kong entertainment-related sites.

episode summaries. The debate over *Happy Days* can get pretty lively, and most of the other posts are interesting as well.

TV News Shows
alt.tv.news-shows
Most of the posts here deal with the O.J. Simpson trial and verdict, advertising during news shows and the ethics of broadcast journalism.

TV Sounds
alt.binaries.sounds.tv
Sound clips from popular shows like *The Simpsons*, *All in the Family* and *Babylon 5* can be found here. If the sound you're looking for isn't here, request it, and someone will probably post it.

X-Files
alt.tv.x-files
Regular topics discussed in this popular newsgroup include *The X-Files*' plotlines, continuity, *X-Files*-related Web sites, specific episodes, agent Mulder's possible pornography fetish and the agents' badge numbers. Posts tend to be informative and quirky.

The Net and BBSs

British Comedy
FTP: ftp.seas.gwu.edu Path: /pub/rtfm/alt/comedy/british
Fans of British comedy can access several thing of interest here, including the Definitive UK Sitcom List, Books for the Avid Britcomedy Fan, and FAQs about the show *The Young Ones* and the newsgroup **alt.comedy.british**.

High-Definition Television
FTP: nic.switch.ch Path: /docs/GAO-Reports
Open to academic researchers only, this ftp site contains a report from the U.S. General Accounting Office about applications for high-definition television. The report was posted to gauge interest in GAO documents online.

Cable Regulation Digest
Gopher: gopher.vortex.com Path: TV-Film-Video/Cable Regulation Digest
This online newsletter contains a summary of regulatory news from industry sources. It covers telecom legislation, telco proposals and cable competition. The last 18 months' worth of issues is available here.

Movies

More than 70 online sites bring the glitz and glamour of Hollywood from the silver screen to your PC monitor. Read about new movie releases, download film clips and interact with other movie buffs by using this month's collection of movie-related resources.

The Web

Disney Animated Features
http://www.best.com/~dijon/disney/movies/
From early classics like *Snow White* to the current hit *The Lion King*, this database offers resources on Disney's animated films, such as production information, Academy awards won, Disney trivia and song lyrics.

First Knight
http://www.spe.sony.com/Pictures/SonyMovies/16knight.html
The Web site for this Sony movie based on the Arthurian legend offers biographies of the movie's stars, including Sean Connery and Richard Gere. The site also contains production information and links to other Arthurian sites.

Johnny Mnemonic
http://www.spe.sony.com/Pictures/SonyMovies/06jonmnu.html
The Web site for *Johnny Mnemonic*, the action thriller based on the short story by William Gibson, the father of cyberpunk, contains cast and crew information, multimedia offerings and cyberpunk-related links.

TV Zone Forum

The members of the TV Zone Forum (CompuServe: go **tvzone**), discuss TV dramas and popular programs, such as *Friends*, *Melrose Place* and the soap operas *As the World Turns* and *Guiding Light*. In the *Friends* topic, viewers discuss the show's characters, actors and plots. The forum's library contains photographs, episode guides, TV-related online chat transcripts and other files from shows, such as *Northern Exposure*, *ER* and MTV's *Beavis and Butthead*.

The Net
http://www.spe.sony.com/Pictures/SonyMovies/17net.html
The Net, a high-tech movie about Internet intrigue, has a Web site devoted to it, including video, pictures and sounds from the movie as well as a biography of the star of the movie, Sandra Bullock.

James Bond
http://www.mcs.net/~klast/www/bond.html
This site contains all of the information you'll ever wanted to know about the world's favorite spy—Bond. James Bond. A wealth of material about such such subjects as the actors who played Bond to Bond's many different cars can be found here.

ENN at the Movies
http://www.slip.net/~scmetro/movies.htm
At this site run by the Entertainment News Network, you'll find the latest Hollywood news, film reviews, film production information, actor biographies and a wealth of useful movie hotlinks.

Hitchcock Page
http://www.primenet.com/~mwc/index.html
This online resource for Hitchcock fans contains a Hitchcock filmography and biography, a list of awards Alfred Hitchcock received and links to other Hitchcock-related sites.

Dove Foundation
http://www.dove.org/
The Dove Foundation is a nonprofit group whose mission is to encourage the creation, production and distribution of wholesome,

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Hong Kong Cinema
http://egret0.stanford.edu/hk/

This information-rich site on Hong Kong cinema contains a movie search database, an ftp database, box office reports, a Bay-area film schedule and other cinema-related links.

Hollywood Online
http://hollywood.com

Current movie listings, articles, a hot Hollywood news section, a multimedia gallery and a wealth of movie and entertainment links can be found at this comprehensive entertainment site.

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
http://www.oscars.org/ampas/

The AMPAS Web site is your guide to the Oscars. The page contains press releases, awards ceremony information, news about film education programs and fellowships, and sections paying tribute to great filmmakers.

Antonio Banderas Home Page
http://www.sju.edu/~delvalle/antonio.html

Latin lover Antonio Banderas broke onto the American movie scene with the 1992 film *Mambo King*, although he's been making movies in Spain for over a decade. Read all about Banderas' career on his unofficial home page.

Sandra Bullock Home Page
http://www.clark.net/pub/mbrophy/the_sandra_page.html

Hollywood's favorite hacker, Sandra Bullock has won the hearts of many all across the Internet through her roles in *The Net* and other movies. This home page features photos of Bullock and interview excerpts.

David's Michelle Pfeiffer Page
http://www.students.uiuc.edu/~dahoffma/pfeiffer.html

Since the 1980s, Michelle Pfeiffer has been one of the most popular leading ladies in Hollywood. A full filmography details her work on David's Michelle Pfeiffer Page, which also includes many downloadable pictures.

Steve Martin
http://www.dundee.ac.uk/~dcyork/steve.htm

He's one wild and crazy guy! From comedian to actor, you can follow Steve Martin's career on this home page created in his honor. View photos, film reviews and interview excerpts here.

Paramount Pictures Online Studio
http://www.paramount.com

Braveheart, *Jade*, *Congo* and *Virtuosity* are just a few smash movies that Paramount Pictures was responsible for in 1995. Paramount Pictures Online Studio home page details the studio's efforts in film and television.

Sony Picture Entertainment
http://www.spe.sony.com/Pictures/index.html

Sony is now offering *Sense and Sensibilites* and *Dracula: Dead and Loving It*, with *Screamers* due out this month. Get the inside scoop on these films, as well as on Sony classics and future releases.

Online Services

Casting Forum
AOL: casting

If you've always known that you have star quality, head over to AOL's Casting Forum, where you'll find casting calls for productions and shows all over the country. Here you can upload your resume and photo so that agents can see them.

@the.Movies
AOL: movies

@the.Movies is the first stop on AOL's virtual tour of Hollywood. Connect with all of AOL's movie resources, including news, reviews and multimedia files here.

Hollywood Online
AOL: hollywood

Catch the latest buzz on Hollywood Online. You probably won't meet Keanu Reeves or Madonna in the message forums, but you can stay up to date with their latest film roles and recent movie releases.

The Name's Bond. James Bond.

Featuring information about James Bond movies, this Web site (**http://www.mcs.net/~klast/www/bond.html**) offers profiles of actors Sean Connery, George Lazenby, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton and Pierce Brosnan, who have all portrayed Agent 007 in the movies. The Q Page focuses on the scientist who supplies Bond with all of his gadgets and gizmos, and there are several links to sites about the famous leading ladies who have appeared in various James Bond films. *GoldenEye*, the most recent Bond movie, is featured on the site as well, as are pictures, soundbytes and information about novelist and Bond creator Ian Fleming.

Follywood
AOL: Follywood

The Follywood forum offers visitors a humorous peek into the workings of Hollywood. Stop by the forum to learn how movies are made and participate in polls about new releases.

EXTRA
AOL: extra

If you like the syndicated television show *EXTRA*, you'll love the program's site on AOL. In addition to in-depth entertainment industry reports, EXTRA offers gossip and photos of Hollywood's hottest actors and actresses.

New Film Releases
AOL: new movies

The New Film Releases section of AOL contains files on new movies, including production and direction information, actor interviews, multimedia files, links to reviews and show-time sections.

Movie Review Database
AOL: movie review db

The Movie Review Database catalogs reviews of films from the 1920s to the present. You can search the section by entering a movie's year of release, leading actor or director.

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Hong Kong Cinema

Featuring an online database of Hong Kong movie information, the Hong Kong Cinema site at http://egret0.stanford.edu/hk/ contains articles about this popular film genre, as well as useful lists and resources. The extensive database can be searched for information about movies and actors in English, Mandarin and Cantonese Chinese. Hong Kong cinema fans in the Bay area can access a listing of local theaters that show featured movies and video stores that stock pertinent titles. Related links and ftp databases offer even additional resources for Hong Kong cinema enthusiasts.

Cinema POV
AOL: cinema pov

Cinema POV lets your opinions about movies be heard. Post messages on the CinemaVox message board, visit the Room With a View chat section or link to movie-related Web sites.

ShowbizMedia Forum
CompuServe: showbiz

What's going on in the entertainment world? What new movies are your favorite actor starring in? You can find almost anything you want to know about the entertainment industry in this forum.

Roger Ebert's Movie Reviews
CompuServe: ebert

It's two thumbs up for Roger Ebert's Movie Reviews! Here you will find celebrity interviews, Ebert's essays on showbiz, a glossary of movie terms and even hints on attending film festivals.

Movie Zone
CompuServe: premiere

From the editors of *Premiere* magazine, the Movie Zone is a monthly collection of feature stories, movie previews, celebrity interviews, calendars, polls, forums and more.

Entertainment Drive Center
CompuServe: edrive

Entertainment Drive is a monthly, online magazine featuring movie news and gossip, a kids section, soap opera gossip, conference news, movie previews, online trailers, documentaries and more.

Beck/Smith Exclusive
CompuServe: beck

This forum compiles columns by Marilyn Beck and Stacy Jenel Smith, two show-business reporters who focus on hard news rather than gossip. Their daily column is distributed by Tribune Media Services.

Archive Films Forum
CompuServe: arcfilm

The Archive Films Forum is an online library of film clips from Archive Films, which has collected more than 14,000 hours of newsreel, silent film, comedy, Hollywood features, documentaries and educational footage.

France Cinema Forum
CompuServe: fcinema

The France Cinema Forum contains reviews and archives of French and American movies, as well as a collection of articles, pictures, sounds and videos. The entire Forum is written in French.

Magill's Survey of Cinema
CompuServe: magill

This comprehensive database contains in-depth articles about more than 30,000 films released since 1902.

All-Movie Guide
CompuServe: allmovie

The All-Movie Guide is a searchable database of movie titles, plots, cast information and more. You can search for film information by genre, title, leading actor/actress, rating and producer/director.

Action/Adventure/Horror Video
Prodigy: action video

Are you in the mood to watch a suspenseful horror flick? How about a thrilling adventure movie? The Action/Adventure/Horror Video area provides suggestions for spine-tingling video rentals.

Kid Video
Prodigy: kid video

Get suggestions on great video rentals for children at the Kid Video area on Prodigy. This site offers more than 20 suggestions for appropriate and entertaining films recently released on video.

Current Films: New Reviews
Prodigy: current films

Before you shell out good money to see a new movie, stop by the Current Films: New Reviews area to read what reviewers have to say about the newest releases. After watching a new movie, head to the Movies BB to post your own thoughts and reviews.

Current Films Index
Prodigy: movie index

Hundreds of movies are reviewed in this database. Although it's named the Current Films Index, most of these movies aren't new and are already on video

Awards
Prodigy: awards

Prodigy's entertainment area contains articles about and pictures of recent Emmy, Tony, Grammy, Golden Globe and Oscar winners. There are also several links to entertainment-related BBs and similar areas.

Movies BB
Prodigy: movies bb

Visit the Movies BB to play movie critic or to participate in the Cutest Actor/Actress Poll. Here you can read other movie critics' evaluations of recent movie releases and learn about coming attractions, too.

New on Video
Prodigy: new on video

Do you have nothing to do on a rainy day? Check out Prodigy's New on Video area to find out which comedies, dramas, action and children's movies have recently been released on video. Each subject category offers listings of more than 20 rental suggestions.

Maverick
Prodigy: maverick

This site features information about *Maverick*, the movie starring Mel Gibson, Jodie Foster and James Garner as well as a cast photo and links to other movie-related areas.

Usenet

Asian Movies
alt.asian-movies

Whatever you want to know about Asian movies you can find here from other users.

Cult Movies
alt.cult-movies

Although the general focus of this group is on cult movies, you'll also find discussions about other types of movies as well.

Quentin Tarantino
alt.fan.tarantino

Fans of Quentin Tarantino's *Reservoir Dogs*, *Pulp Fiction* and *True Romance* can get their daily helpings of the director's approach to film-making on this newsgroup

Disney
rec.arts.disney

Discuss all sorts of Disney-related issues in this newsgroup, from the moral messages in Disney's animated movies to the films' artistic qualities

Science Fiction Movies
rec.arts.sf.movies

Discuss past and current science fiction movies with other fans on this newsgroup, where users focus on the good and bad points of the greatest sci-fi movies.

Movie Surveys
rec.arts.movies.lists+surveys

In this newsgroup, movie buffs trade messages about their favorite and least-favorite movies and actors, and discuss other movie-related topics, too.

Monster Movies
alt.movies.monster

Fans of notorious monsters, from Godzilla to the Alien, gather in the **alt.movies.monster** newsgroup to discuss their favorite horror movie scenes and screams.

James Bond
alt.fan.james-bond

From Sean Connery to Roger Moore, all of the actors who portrayed Agent 007, James Bond, are discussed here. Opening movie scenes are dissected, and plots and characters are highlighted. Even the films' soundtrack composers are fair game for discussion and criticism.

Woody Allen
alt.fan.woody-allen

Followers of the filmmaker extraordinaire Woody Allen discuss his past and present works in the **alt.fan.woody-allen** newsgroup Though they primarily extol Allen's talent and genius, users also dip into his personal life.

Movie Production
rec.arts.movies.production

If you've ever wondered what it takes to produce a film, the newsgroup **rec.arts.movie.production** can give you an idea. From lighting techniques and film to camera formats and film schools, every aspect of the movie production business is discussed here.

The Net and BBSs

Internet Wiretap
FTP: ftp.spies.com Path: /Library/Media/Film

From vampire films to James Bond flicks, cults to classics, Wiretap collects information on all sorts of movies. Listings here contain a variety of facts, including Godzilla cast member information, a list of canonical actors and a collection of production mistakes found in movies.

Finnish University
FTP: ftp.funet.fi Path: pub/culture/tv+film

In *The Terminator*, what are Arnold Schwarzenegger's lines, other than "I'll be back"? Full scripts to *The Terminator* and several other movies can be found on the Finnish University movie database, as well as film reviews and downloadable pictures.

The Unofficial Harrison Ford Stuff Homepage

In addition to offering actor Harrison Ford's biographical information and filmography, this page at http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/lpchao/harrison.ford.html features links to other sites related to the actor and his movies. There's some speculation on the Web page about whether or not Ford will appear in more movies based on Tom Clancy's novels, as well as debate about possible future Indiana Jones movies. The pictures and video and audio clips from *Blade Runner*, *Star Wars* and *The Fugitive* make this site a treasure trove of Harrison Ford photos.

University of Minnesota
Gopher: gopher.micro.umn.edu Path: /fun/movies

If you can't think of a good video to rent, browse through this collection of movie reviews. Culled from the Usenet newsgroup **rec.arts.movies.reviews**, these commentaries cover virtually every movie made since 1987.

Music

Music fans can find a wide range of information and entertainment online, from Web pages about rock and folk music to forums about MIDI technology and electronic music. On many sites, users can download music samples or chat with others about their favorite songs and performers.

The Web

500 Most Influential Rock & Roll Songs—Alternate
http://xp.nyu.edu/~jonathan/rocksong.html

Written in response to the song list compiled for the opening of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, this site features alternate songs selected from Hall inductees, as well as 40 songs that should have made the cut, but didn't.

77's
http://web77.biola.edu/~steve/77s/

Michael Roe of the 77's, a Christian rock band, has also played in the Lost Dogs and the Strawmen. This Web page provides lyrics and a discography of all of Roe's side projects, as well as music reviews and other information.

All Jazz@the Muse
http://hyperlink.com/muse/jazz/index.htm

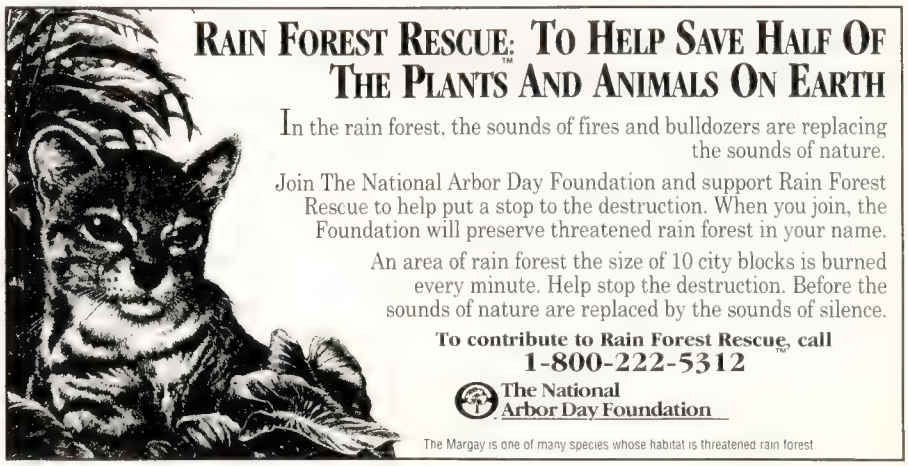
This online newsletter features new, improvised music. The August 7, 1995, issue contained reviews of musicians Matt Kendrick, Norma Winstone, Sally Burgess and the Penguin Cafe Orchestra.

American Music Center
http://www.amc.net/amc/index.htm

This nonprofit music resource center provides a variety of information services and publications online, including musical scores, National Endowment for the Arts news and links to Web pages by participating artists.

Archive of Hindi Movie Songs
http://www.cs.wisc.edu/~navin/india/songs/index.html

Gleaned from the ITRANS Song Book, an Internet project that collects lyrics in English, Hindi, Marathi, Sanskrit and Urdu, this archive focuses on Hindi film soundtracks and songs. Users can search the database by singer, director, movie and actor.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HotList

Internet Underground Music Archives

Decked out in a 50s-era graphic style, the IUMA, the self-proclaimed "Internet's pad for hi-fi living," features promotional information and soundbytes from independent record labels and hundreds of independent bands. IUMA (http://www.iuma.com/IUMA-2.0/home.html) now offers specially scheduled computer-mediated radio broadcasts and online concerts complete with real-time live video and audio feeds. The constantly-growing band roster features the groups A Halo Called Fred, the Coctails and Greenhouse. IUMA also features online versions of several music publications, including *RIP* and the *GAVIN Report*.

Ari Davidow's Klez Picks
http://www.well.com/user/ari/klez/

Ari's a big fan of the new wave of klezmer music, and his Web page is chock-full of klezmer news, reviews and information, including material about musicians, such as the New Klezmer Trio and Anthony Coleman.

Audiophile's Music Web
http://www.xensei.com/audiophile/

As a promotional tool for several independent bands, Audiophile offers Web pages for up-and-coming musicians. The pages include tour schedules, music samples and a section for trading bootleg tapes of live performances.

Big O
http://www.asia-online.com/bigo/

The online edition of this music magazine from Asia features the current issue, as well as several back issues. The material available online includes articles about Patti Smith, Peter Murphy and 1979, "the year punk died."

Canadian Internet Music Source
http://www.globalx.net/cims/index.html

CIMS provides a list of Canadian artists and bands that run the musical gamut, as well as concert dates and reviews. Users can also download audio utilities here and order CDs from the musicians profiled.

Chicago SoundWeb
http://www.soundweb.com

The Fall 1995 edition of this music e-zine contains local music news and band and artist profiles, as well as analyses of the Chicago scene. The Concert Line and venue home pages are interesting, as is the Flier Gallery, which promotes poster art.

Dave Matthews Band
http://www.columbia.edu/~jh551/dmb/home.html

The Dave Matthews Band page contains a complete lyrics file and guitar tablature for 35 of the band's songs. There are plenty of band photographs on the site, and more content is in the works.

Deterrent DIY Tour Manual
http://www.islandnet.com/~moron/deterrent/tour_gd.html

A little rough around the edges, the Deterrent manual may be able to help struggling bands book their own tours with its guide to auto mechanics (to fix the tour van) and state-by-state venue listings (to get the gigs).

Dirty Linen Magazine
http://kiwi.futuris.net/linen/

"The magazine of folk, electric folk, traditional and world music" offers online excerpts and articles from its current issue, as well as the searchable Gig Guide, which organizes tour schedules by artist and geographic region.

DiscoWeb
http://www.msci.memphis.edu/~ryburnp/discoweb.html

The Virtual Disco Ball may be the biggest draw here, but it's a 470K MPEG file, so be careful. There's also a list of the top 101 disco songs, a history of disco and a worldwide guide to discotheques, clothing and more.

DJ Mag
http://www.cs.umu.se/~tdu94ati/djmag.html

This resource contains lots of club-kid photography, several guides to being a house DJ, techno sound samples, brief record reviews and profiles of DJs from around the world.

Doc Watson
http://www.rootsworld.com/folklore/doc.html

Doc Watson, a longtime folk musician and flat-top guitarist, is featured on this Web page, which contains an in-depth biography of Watson and a discography. There's also an article about Watson from Dirty Linen Magazine and links to other folk-related sites.

Dutch Falconi and His Twisted Orchestra
http://www.mother.com/~foy323/falconi.html

This bizarre site reads like it was put up by a 23-piece big band that features dancers, a hypnotherapist and an unemployed plastic surgeon. There's a FAQ about the orchestra here, a concert schedule and the neo-beat prose of Gene Avery.

ECM Records
http://www.ecmrecords.com

With a catalog of instrumental, chamber and jazz music from around the world featuring such artists as Carla Bley and Keith Jarrett, ECM's Web catalog is a lush assortment of album art, tour schedules and artist discographies.

EST Web
http://www.hyperreal.com/zines/est/

Extracted from the first several issues of the avant-garde music fanzine *EST*, EST Web includes interviews with musicians, such as Jim O'Rourke and Elliott Sharp, articles about extensive sampling and plagiarism, and reviews.

Folk Roots
http://www.cityscape.co.uk/froots/

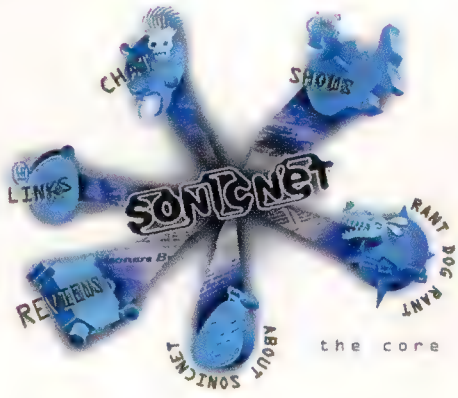
The online edition of this European magazine contains album reviews, interesting links, radio playlists and a sampling of the magazine's print contents, including a discography of music from Madagascar.

Guitar.Net
http://www.guitar.net

Celebrities host the Chord-of-the-Week feature, which analyzes and teaches different aspects of guitar playing. The site also includes tips on guitar-making and maintenance. More than 10,000 transcriptions and charts are archived here, as well.

Hiljaiset Levyt
http://www.sjoki.uta.fi/~latvis/levyyht/hiljais.html

This Finnish record label produces records by such power-pop bands as Jalla Jalla and the Nightingales. Band information, discographies and information about the Finnish rock 'n' roll scene are all available here.



SonicNet

This music resource offers artistic graphics and several services of interest to music buffs. SonicNet's staff of writers offers video and record reviews featuring such artists as David Bowie, Viva Last Blues and Sonic Youth. The Rant Dog Rant section features gossip and music industry news , as well as reader-submitted gripes. The Shows section, however, is what could really push SonicNet (**http://www.sonicnet.com/**) over the top, focusing on the music scenes in Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, New York and Washington, D.C. Weekly show listings in these cities are provided by SonicNet readers. The listings continue to grow and could very well be the itineraries for the new musical jet set.

Hong Kong Bridge Lite

http://www.ugrad.cs.ubc.ca/spider/v9f192/HKBridge/hkb95l.htm

Devoted to Hong Kong pop idols, this scaled-down version of Hong Kong Bridge is replacing the full-fledged Web version until the image maps and photos are back up. Top 20 lists of singers and albums, MIDI files and photo galleries are also available.

HOTSTUFF-NYC

http://www.hotstuff-nyc.com/

HOTSTUFF-NYC provides information about independent bands, including photographs, biographies and song files online. The site also includes record label information and the e-zine Millimeter Magazine.

Internet Resources for Music Teachers

http://www.isd77.k12.mn.us/resources/staffpages/shirk/cindys.musicpage.html

This wide-ranging directory of online aids for music educators offers a vast selection of K-12, commercial and MIDI-related sites. The K-12 page provides news, orchestra, choral and classroom tips.

Internet Underground Music Archive

http://www.iuma.com/IUMA/index_graphic.html

Featuring hip vintage graphics, the IUMA links record labels, publications and bands and provides a lot of sound samples, too. All musical genres are covered, but many of the bands play alternative rock.

Jacky Cheung

http://dragon.physics.ucla.edu/jacky/

This fan-oriented Web page is dedicated to Jacky Cheung, one of the more popular pop singers in Hong Kong. The site includes biographical data, a lengthy discography and Hong Kong filmography, as well as lots of photographs and sound files.

Jukebox From Hell

http://www.discjockey.com/jukebox.html

This site features a list of one-hit wonders and songs from the '50s, '60s and '70s that will probably never be played on the radio again. Users can download sound files and suggest their own least-favorite songs for inclusion.

K Records Newsletter & Catalogue

http://www.wln.com/~kpunk/

Users can access this punk label's catalog of CDs, tapes and 7-inch records online, as well as read tour dates and information about Riot Grrl events. Several bands also have Web pages here, including the Crabs and Lois.

Kingsmen

http://www.eskimo.com/~craigb/kingsmen.html

Well known for their version of "Louie, Louie," the Kingsmen sued for and won ownership of their old recordings and are now in the studio again. This page features a band history, member roster and more.

Leonard Cohen Fan Information Files

http://www.megabaud.fi/~ja/cohen

This online resource for fans of the songsmith Leonard Cohen covers books about Cohen and his music, compilations and cover versions of his songs. Fans can trade records in the marketplace section and take advantage of several related links.

Lied and Song Texts

http://www.cs.mcgill.ca/~mindel/lieder.html

This site contains a collection of public domain German music texts by composers, such as Beethoven, Brahms, Mahler and Schumann, as well as poets, such as Baudelaire, Byron and Li Po. A select discography is also included.

Lookout! Records

http://www.itw.com/~maxiter/lookout/

While this is not the label's official Web site or an online ordering outlet, this page delights users with its record listings and band-related links. Occasionally, song lyrics and album art are available for bands, such as Screeching Weasel and Fifteen.

MisterLUCKY

http://www.wco.com/~coconutg/

The online edition of this quarterly musical communiqué celebrates alcoholic cocktails and jazz-centric music such as samba. Reviews can be read on the "Accordeon 1913-1941" compilation, Henry Mancini, Judy Garland and the Ron Habanero-Dubonnet Helado.

MIT Musical Theatre Guild Archives

http://www.mit.edu:8001/activities/mtg/archives/mtg-archives.html

The MTG Archives provide synopses of musicals performed at MIT since 1985. Additional records date back to 1958. Sometimes the connection speed is rather slow, so be patient.

Muse

http://www.val.net/VillageSounds/Muse/index.html

This online journal of women in music features musicians such as the band Over the Rhine, Sarah McLachlan and Bettie Serveert. The journal contains interviews, photographs, reviews and a lot of intelligent discussion about gender and music.

Music Boulevard

http://www.musicblvd.com/

Music Boulevard claims to have almost 150,000 musical selections in the pop, rock, country, classical and jazz genres. The store also offers discographies and low prices, as well as Music Wire, its online, daily music magazine.

Plague

http://www.efn.org/~dhinds/test.htm

This e-zine focuses on heavy metal, techno and industrial bands, such as Die Krupps, the Lords of Acid and Melissa Ferrick. Readers can also access record, video, show and demo tape reviews.

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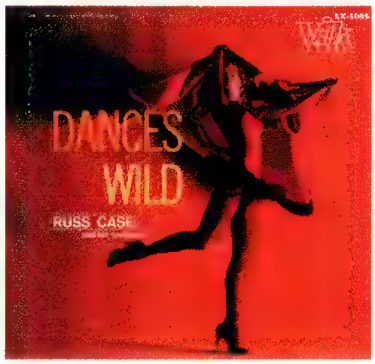
Music



Space Age Bachelor Pad Music

Paying homage to such musical visionaries as Juan Garcia Esquivel, Enoch Light and Martin Denny, Space Age Bachelor Pad Music (SABPM) puts the leisure back into leisure suits. Drawing heavily on the lounge music revival, SABPM (**http://www.users.interport.net/~joholmes/index.html**) features a history of the SABPM musical genre, reprints of music reviews and articles, and loads of flamboyant record album covers reproduced in full color. The Esquivel Special section is interesting reading, as are the numerous discographies. Who knew easy listening could be this much fun?

PolkaNet

http://www.polkanet.com

As "the complete guide to contemporary polka music," PolkaNet serves up a history of polka music, news about polka events, band contact information and more. The site also includes an archive of polka songs that users can play on their computers.

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

http://www.rockhall.com/

The Day in Rock, rock news and a list of 500 Songs that Shaped Rock and Roll are featured on this site, along with photographs of the Rock Hall and links to Cleveland Online, a site containing Cleveland tourism information.

SonicNet

http://www.sonicnet.com/

Fans of rock 'n' roll and alternative music can chat with celebrities and other fans on SonicNet. The site's regional show listings are also helpful.

Space Age Bachelor Pad Music

http://www.users.interport.net/~joholmes/index.html

Between 1954 and 1964, musicians, such as Henry Mancini, Juan Garcia Esquivel and Enoch Light, released swinging hi-fi records that are now featured on this suave Web page. Discographies and new releases make this site a winner.

Spinal Tap

http://www.cs.rochester.edu/u/ferguson/spinal-tap/spinal-tap.html

Turn it up to 11 with this online collection of Spinal Tap photos, a Spinal Tap discography, the complete movie script and several other filmographies. The links are the most valuable part of this site, including cool pages about this cult film.

Terre Haute Symphony Orchestra

http://www-isu.indstate.edu/community/thso/home.html

This Web page contains information about the Terre Haute (Indiana) Symphony Orchestra's conductor, a schedule of the 1995-1996 season, a guide to the THSO's educational programs and a personnel roster.

Punk Page

http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~jona/punk/punk.html

Primarily a list of links and brief original pages devoted to old- and new-school punk bands, such as the Wynona Riders and the Mr. T Experience, there isn't a better online punk rock resource available. Punk record labels are also represented here.

tlo's Blues Page

http://www.teleport.com/~tlo/

Fans of the blues can find excerpts of the Blues-L mailing list on this Web page, as well as news about new blues recordings. There are also several links to other music- and blues-related sites.

Trumpet Player ONLINE

http://silver.ucs.indiana.edu/~mvanclea/Trumpet.html

This cyberspace resource for trumpet players features photographs of famous trumpet players, sound files, method books users can order, articles about playing the trumpet, online lessons and a Web directory of trumpet players.

Underground Music Web

http://www.twics.com/~yoichi/home.html

Based in Tokyo, this Web page focuses on underground bands in Japan and other places concentrating on such bands as Animal Earmuff and Little Fujito. The online discography of Japanese noise bands is indispensable.

Unofficial Randy Travis Fan Page

http://www.geopages.com/Hollywood/1548/

This Web page features biographical information of country musician Randy Travis, concert dates and reviews, and a guide to Travis' acting career. More content is planned.

Urge Overkill

http://www.geffen.com/uo/

Coming off the success of its Neil Diamond cover on the *Pulp Fiction* soundtrack, Urge Overkill now has a new album called *Exit the Dragon*. Geffen's promotional site provides a band history, a song list and tour dates.

Welcome to the Rykoverse

http://www.rykoverse.com/

Featuring records released by Rykodisc, Hannibal and Gramavision, the Rykoverse features information about Frank Zappa, the band Morphine and other artists. Concert schedules, soundbytes and new release information are also available.

WNUR-FM JazzWeb

http://www.acns.nwu.edu/jazz/

Online since 1993, the JazzWeb is a volunteer-run, interactive database of artist biographies and discographies, as well as a hypermap of the various styles of jazz. Other resources include jazz festival schedules, media contacts and record label addresses.

Yet Another Page Dedicated to Musical Artist Sarah McLachlan

http://www.webcom.com/~donh/sarah/

This Web page features information about Sarah McLachlan, a Canadian folk-rock singer. The page includes lyrics, interviews and a plethora of other McLachlan-related links.

Online Services

Grateful Dead Forum

AOL: dead

Get out your tie-dyed shirts and your love beads and visit the Grateful Dead Forum. Visitors can order Dead T-shirts, download photos of the band and mourn the loss of Jerry Garcia with other Deadheads.

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MTV Online
AOL: mtv

A dictionary of musical terms, a guide to radio stations nationwide and clips from top music videos are just part of what MTV offers online. The forum also provides lists of top hits and videos and a calendar of musicians' birthdays.

ROCKLINE Online
AOL: rockline

Simulcast on national radio, ROCKLINE and its sister show Modern Rock Live feature online chats with rock stars, such as Alanis Morrisette and PM Dawn. A chat room is also available for fans to communicate with each other.

RockNet
AOL: rocknet

Disc jockeys, musicians and producers occasionally visit RockNet to get feedback on the music industry. The forum features album reviews, interviews and a list of the current top 30 albums and singles.

SPINonline
AOL: spin

SPINonline has perfected the art of cyberslang; the magazine boasts that it offers cybertorials, infotainment and a digital mosh pit (chat room). SPIN is geared to Generation Xers who want the latest entertainment scoop.

Tower Records
AOL: tower

Order from more than 150,000 recordings when you visit Tower Records. Visitors can select from almost every musical genre imaginable, including blues, classical, country, rock and Latin.

American Oldies Diner Forum
CompuServe: oldies

Get your glad rags on and shimmy over to the American Oldies Diner, where people gather to discuss radio memories, oldies stations, rockabilly and surf music, as well as '50s memorabilia.

MIDI/Music Forum
CompuServe: midiforum

The MIDI/Music Forum contains message areas for discussion about synthesizers and samplers, MIDI interfacing, composing, sequencing, sound cards and recording.

Music 1 BB
Prodigy: music 1 bb

At the Music 1 BB, you'll find discussions on everything from alternative rock to R&B to oldies. Members discuss their favorite bands and songs; others post want ads for concert tickets.

Music 2 BB
Prodigy: music 2 bb

Are you a rock fan? If so, then the Music 2 BB is not for you. Here, users discuss almost every kind of music except rock, from classical and folk to drum and bugle corps.

Usenet

Blue Note/Jazz Music
rec.music.bluenote

This busy but bland newsgroup is the most popular jazz newsgroup available and focuses on such musicians as John Coltrane, Branford Marsalis and Keith Jarrett.

Brazilian Music
rec.music.brazilian

This newsgroup focuses on Brazilian recordings and musicians. People occasionally post that they are looking for recordings by musicians, such as Chico Buarque.

ClariNet Living Music
clari.living.music

AP and Reuter's provide newswire features about how music fits into the news and daily life. Articles here focus on the Beatles, the Three Tenors, Latin American label subsidiaries, and the late singers Selena and Burl Ives.

Exotic Music
alt.exotic-music

If you're a fan of minimalism, shell music, Perez Prado, the *Tron* soundtrack, Enoch Light and tikis, **alt.exotic-music** will tickle your fancy. The Enoch Light album discussions are reason enough to visit this newsgroup.

Folk Music
rec.music.folk

Old-time music, hootenanny folk and modern singer-songwriter music all find a home on this newsgroup. Readers discuss the Kingston Trio and Shawn Colvin and swap show information, lyrics and music reviews.

Jewish Music
alt.music.jewish

This newsgroup provides news about upcoming klezmer and classical performances, analysis of klezmer music and discussions about Jewish musicians. This is a good place to go if you can't find related recordings.

Music Bootlegs
alt.music.bootlegs

If you have bootleg tapes and CDs of your favorite bands playing live, you'll find other people to trade with here. Rip-off artists are publicly lambasted, but recordings by artists, such as Sly Stone, Ozzy Osbourne and Pearl Jam, are sold.

Music Journalism
alt.journalism.music

News releases as well as tour schedules are posted here. Some people post complaints about those who crosspost. Others debate whether music journalism is an oxymoron.

Record Collecting
rec.music.collecting.vinyl

Record collectors gather here to discuss album grading and care tips and ask for artist and title leads for hard-to-find records. For-sale notices are discouraged, but they occur nonetheless.

World Music
alt.music.world

Discussion in this newsgroup centers on indigenous music from around the world, drumming circles, Middle Eastern recordings, Gamelan music and the Symposium of Women in World Music.

The Net and BBSs

Crescendo BBS
BBS: 301-490-4775

This BBS contains an online magazine that features music industry news, equipment and reviews. Databases contain information about fan clubs and fanzines, discographies, lyrics and more.

Music FAQs
FTP: ftp.oleane.net Path: /pub/mirrors/doc/faq/music

This archive contains a lot of FAQ files, including documents about industrial music, James Taylor, music notation programs and the band Poi Dog Pondering. The science fiction references FAQ is interesting, as well.

Queer Music
FTP: ftp.otago.ac.nz Path: /pub/QRD/media/music

Lists of gay bands, musicians, composers, as well as songs that address gay, lesbian and bisexual issues are featured here, including the 1994 Gay Music Guide and an opera about gay activist Harvey Milk.

Usenet Music Resources
FTP: ftp.seas.gwu.edu Path: /pub/rtfm/rec/music

Users can find directories that contain FAQs and guides to Net resources for Celtic, classical, industrial, movie and reggae music. In addition, the movie subdirectory contains a soundtrack database.

Trumpet Player ONLINE

Mark Van Cleave has amassed a collection of trumpet resources on Trumpet Player ONLINE at http://silver.ucs.indiana.edu/~mvanclea/Trumpet.html. Every month, Van Cleave features a picture of a different trumpet player, as well as a handful of sound files and several method books for sale online. Articles about such topics as how to practice efficiently and how to transcribe trumpet solos are helpful, as are the online lessons in which readers can e-mail Van Cleave about playing technique and other trumpet-related issues. Trumpet Player ONLINE is a friendly, helpful guide for trumpet players of all ages and skill levels.

WebFlash

Address: http://www.bsdi.com

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Advisor

Address: http://www.directory.net/lexis-nexis/sba

What's there: Utilize the LEXIS-NEXIS Small Business Service. Find advice/information in 6,000 Small Business Advisor articles. Browse investment opportunities in National Business Exchange's 8,000 businesses for sale.

Address: http://www.suntimes.com

What's there: Let the *Chicago Sun-Times* bring you the best of the Internet—as well as movie and restaurant reviews, sports information and much more

Address: http://www.accessnv.com/postnet

What's there: PostNet is dedicated to developing a worldwide network of postal and business centers that are committed to uncompromised quality, service and value. Find out about our franchise opportunities.

Address: http://www.Delrina.com

What's there: Download the beta of Cyberjack FREE---the best way to access the power of the Internet. Or check out the BigTop at **http://www.delrina.com/windows95/welcome.htm** for fun, games, giveaways and more!

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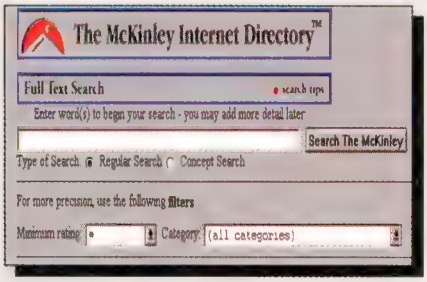
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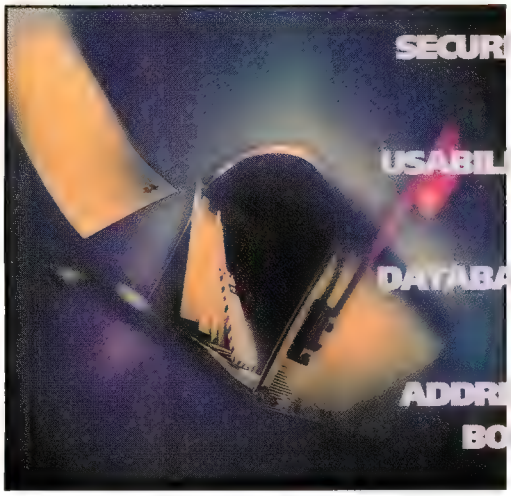

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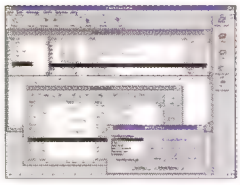

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A Boardwatch Top 100 BBS in 1994. Do you want to meet open-minded couples and singles? The Friendship Express BBS is for you. Over 3,500 members on our 54-line system. Thousands of personal ads, several matchmaking services. Call our board via modem or telnet 24 hours a day. Local access available from over 800 cities.

For information about advertising in this section, call ONLINE ACCESS at 800-MODEM-01, voice.

Software

BananaCom!

1916 Brooks, #205, Missoula, MT 59801, voice: 406-543-1928, fax: 406-549-3522, modem: 406-543-8234

BananaCom! is a communications program that installs itself, auto-scans the modem port and speed and goes. BananaCom Custom is the same program with your BBS number hard-wired in. It includes unlimited distribution license. New support for JPEG-viewing and Windows. Download the shareware from The Montana Banana BBS at 406-543-8234 or send $2 for a sample diskette.

Image Alchemy

48820 Kato Rd., Ste. 110, Fremont, CA 94538, voice: 510-252-0101, fax: 510-252-0909, e-mail: sales@handmadesw.com, ftp: ftp.handmadesw.com

If you can't import a graphic because it's the wrong format, use Image Alchemy™. Image Alchemy guarantees conversion of over 70 supported formats, including GIF, JPEG, TIFF and computer-specific formats, such as Windows BMP, Macintosh PICT and Silicon Graphics Raster. To download the shareware, ftp to ftp.handmadesw.com and look in the /pubs/alchemy directory.

J.W. Associates

P.O. Box 280, Medford, NJ 08055, voice: 609-953-9888, e-mail: jwassociat@aol.com

Reach 40 million people worldwide. Advertise your products or services on the Internet for $75. Easy-to-use software makes placing a classified consumer ad on the Adpages Web site quick and easy. $10 cost for the software is refundable with placement of your first ad. Order today—e-mail jwassociat@aolcom.

Trademarks Online

The Trademark Register

National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045, voice: 202-662-1233, fax: 202-347-4408, e-mail: trademarks@reply.net

Screen trademarks before advertising. Search the federal trademarks online for only $2.30 per minute from anywhere in the U.S. ($0.30 per minute surcharge outside U.S.). No other fees. Two million trademark database is updated weekly. Application forms for access are available by calling above numbers.

Weather

WeatherBrief

5 Triad Center, Ste. 315, Salt Lake City, UT 84180, voice: 801-530-3181

WeatherBrief Color Software is a real-time weather information database available via IBM PCs and compatibles. Thousands of EGA or VGA graphics, complete with state, county, city, highway and major river overlays. All graphic data is viewed offline to save clients time and money. Online cost is as low as 15 cents per minute. Setup fee for text or monochrome—$15. Color software—$53. Connect with 300 bps to 28.8 Kbps modems.

Tell us what you think about this issue of ONLINE ACCESS. We will randomly select 10 respondents to receive Microforum's Internet Connection (Microforum, $19.95 retail value), the complete Internet Yellow Pages software.

NAME _____

TITLE _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

ARTICLE	INTEREST TO YOU			TECHNICAL LEVEL		
	HIGH	MED	LOW	TOO HARD	OK	TOO EASY
New Products and Services, p. 10	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Online Update, p.14	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
ClipBoard, p. 22	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Online Events, p. 25	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Internet Insider, p. 27	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Power User, p. 30	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Cyberbeat, p.32	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Good Things on the Internet, p.35	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
The MSN Report Card, p. 38	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Getting Your High-Speed Modem up to Speed, p. 45	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Cracks in the Safe, p. 50	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Online and Unplugged, p. 54	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Remote Access Software, p. 58	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Accidental User, p. 61	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
HotList, p. 69	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Online Almanac, p. 96	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

1. Did you get this issue of ONLINE ACCESS ❑ on the newsstand ❑ via subscription.

2. With how many other people do you share your copy of ONLINE ACCESS:

❑ 0 ❑ 1-2 ❑ 3-4 ❑ 4 or more

3. At your place of business, which of the following do you recommend for purchase (please specify brand):

❑ Internet Service Provider _____

❑ Web Browser/Navigational Software_____

❑ Modem_____

❑ Web Servers_____

❑ CD-Rom/Multimedia Products_____

❑ Long Distance Telephone Services_____

4. How many times a year are you asked advice on the purchase of computer hardware, software and online services:

A. For corporate use:

❑ 1-10 ❑ 11-50 ❑ 51-100 ❑ over 100

B. For personal use:

❑ 1-10 ❑ 11-50 ❑ 51-100 ❑ over 100

What topics would you like to read about in future issues?

_____

_____

Please mail the completed survey to **ONLINE ACCESS**, Attn: Survey, 900 N. Franklin #700, Chicago, IL 60610 or fax it to 312-573-0520.

Survey

WIN!

January 1996!

Kick off the new year with these historic Web pages.

Photography: Tony Stone Images

A Virtual New Year's Eve Party
CyberFOO on IRC
http://www.dark.net/pub/howie/cyberfoo.html

Ring in 1996 with the CyberFOO on IRC Web page. Last year's IRC New Year's Eve bash was carried at cybercafes like the Other Side Cosmic Cafe in Boston, The WELL in San Francisco and ECHO in New York. Check out the site for information about this year's party.

If you have a big idea for New Year's Eve 2000, submit it to the Times Square Business Improvement (BID) Web site at **http://www.mediabridge.com/nyc/bids/tsbid/**. The grand prize, of course, is a trip to Times Square.

Creator of Sci-Fi Worlds
Isaac Asimov Home Page
http://www.dark.net/pub/edseiler/WWW/asimov_home_page.html

Science fiction author Isaac Asimov was born on January 2, 1920. He wrote more than 500 books on various subjects, some of which you can find listed on the Isaac Asimov Home Page. You'll also find lists of articles, essays and reviews about the author.

The Last Frontier
Michael Nunnally's Library of Scenic Images
http://www.wsnet.com/~mnunnall/mikes.html

Alaska became the 49th state on January 3, 1959. To view some interesting photos of one traveler's Alaskan adventure, check out this site.

The King's Mansion
Graceland
http://www-swiss.ai.mit.edu/summer94/graceland.html

In honor of Elvis' birthday on January 8 (1935), take an online tour of Graceland, his mansion in Memphis, Tennessee, on the Graceland Web page. Here you'll find photos of the star's grave site, Ferrari and the mansion's interior, including the Jungle Room.

Still Steaming Down the Tracks
Golden Gate Railroad Museum
http://www.io.com/~fano2472/ggrm/index.html

The first U.S.-built passenger locomotive made its first run (between Charleston and Hamburg, South Carolina) on January 15, 1831. Check out the Golden Gate Railroad Museum Web page for more railroad history and stories about the restoration and run of a venerable locomotive.

I Have a Dream
National Civil Rights Museum Online
http://www.magibox.net/~ncrm/

Civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929. You can read his famous "I Have a Dream" speech on this page. The museum also features a Duke Ellington exhibit online, as well as information about the annual Conference on Freedom.

The Aloha State
Aloha from Hawai'i
http://www.hawaii.net/

The tourist getaway of the Hawaiian islands has been developed at breakneck speed since it became a republic on January 17, 1893. This Web site includes a quick reference section about Hawaii's government, educational system and businesses. You can also link to the Hawaii Visitor's Bureau, which features a clickable map of all of the islands and summaries of each island's offerings.

Eureka!
Gold Mining Stock Report
http://www.info-mine.com/gmsr/

"Eureka!" was the word supposedly shouted by J.W. Marshal, the first lucky miner to strike gold at Sutter's Mill on January 24, 1848. To keep up with today's gold-mining news and stocks, register to receive your monthly copy of the Gold Mining Stock Report, which costs $12 per issue.

Down Under
From the Land Down Under
http://www.usyd.edu.au/su/emu/OZ/oz.html

The first English settlement in Australia was founded on January 26, 1788—10 years after the city of Sydney was settled. Today the Aussies sometimes call the English "pommies," for Prisoner of Mother England. From this Web site, you can learn more Australian lingo, called Strine, and download colorful pictures of this beautiful country. OA

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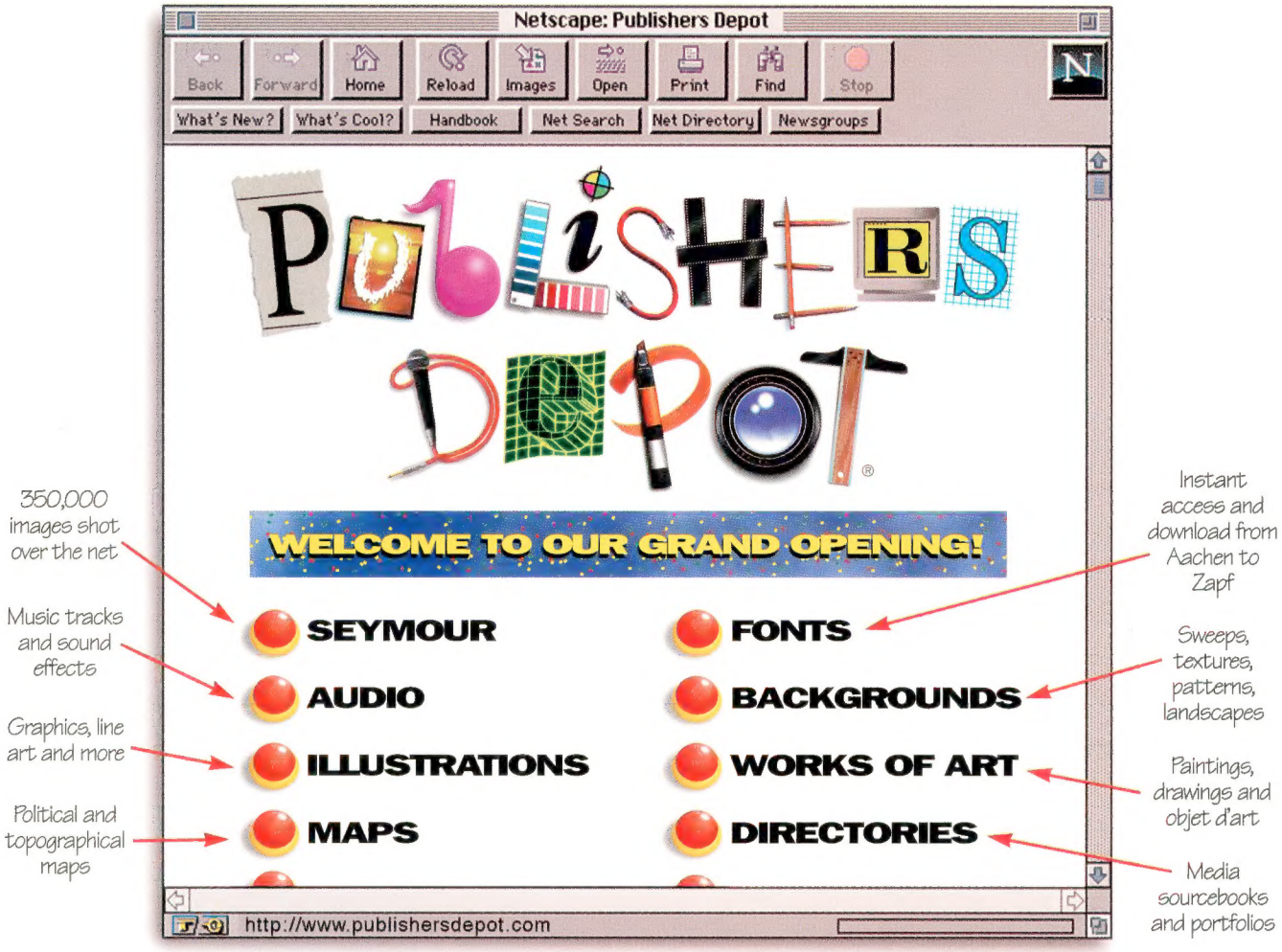

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